

CONTENT WARNING

THIS EPISODE CONTAINS THEMES THAT
REFERENCE SEXUAL ASSAULT. IT ALSO DEPICTS
MANIPULATION AND ANTAGONISM, RESULTING
IN A CHARACTER'S PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS,
WHICH MAY BE UPSETTING FOR
SOME READERS. PLEASE PROCEED
WITH CAUTION.





LORE **OLYMPUS**

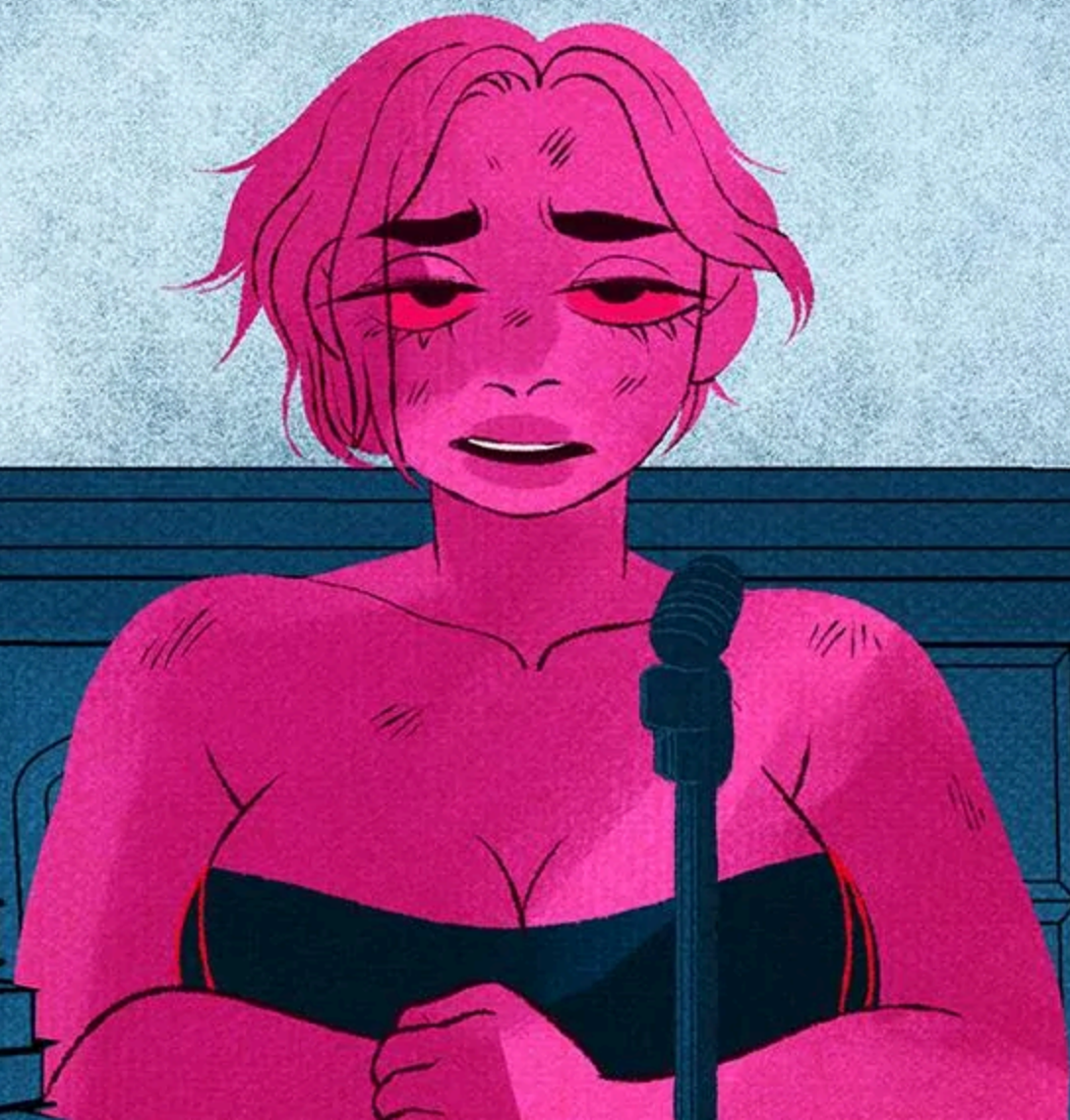
CREATED BY RACHEL SMYTHE
EDITED BY BRE BOSWELL

EPISODE 267: ONE DISASTER AT A TIME

Citizens of the Underworld.

With a heavy heart, I must
inform you that your King is

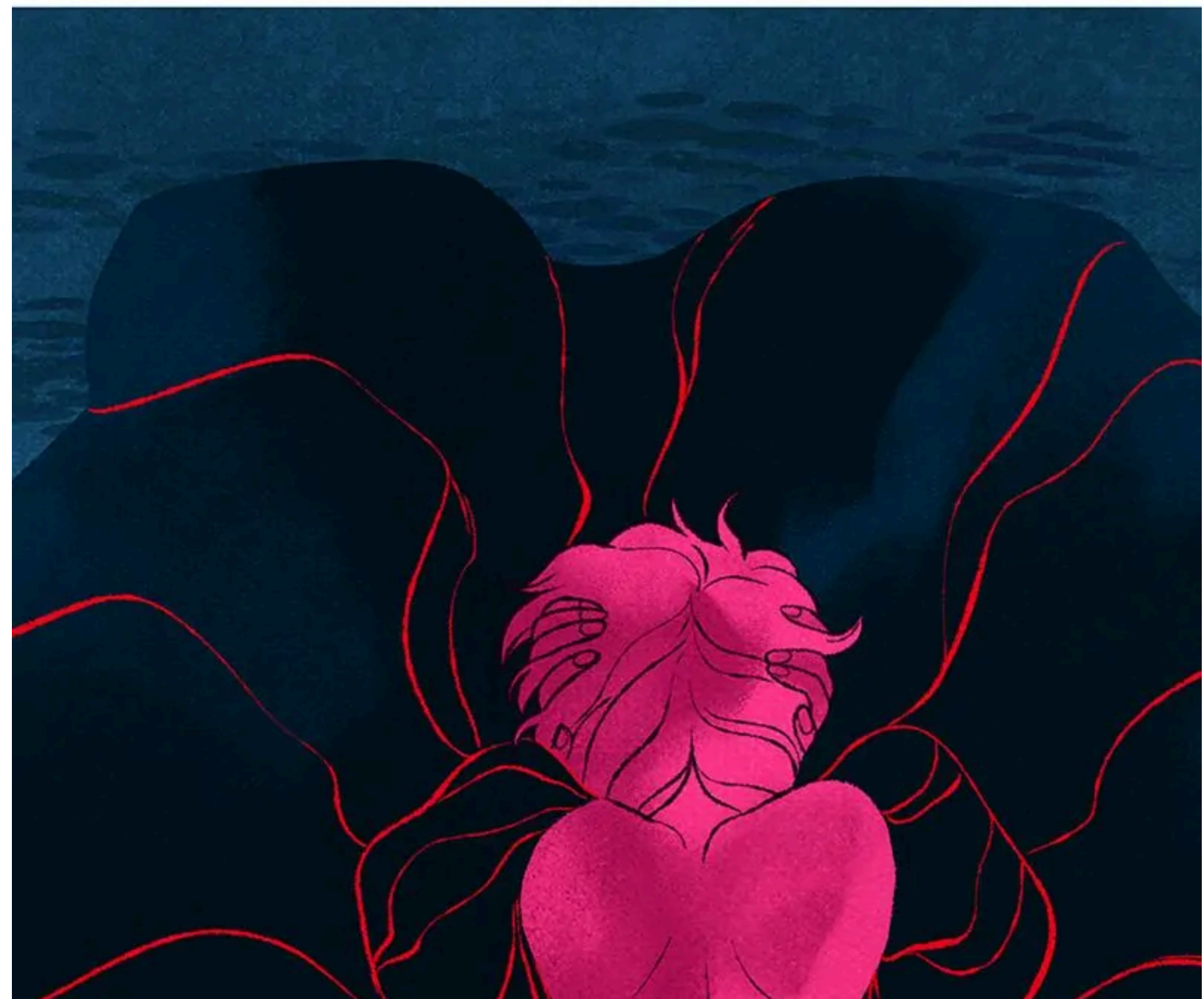
**inform you that your King is
officially MLA, as is Morpheus,
the Goddess of Dreams.**

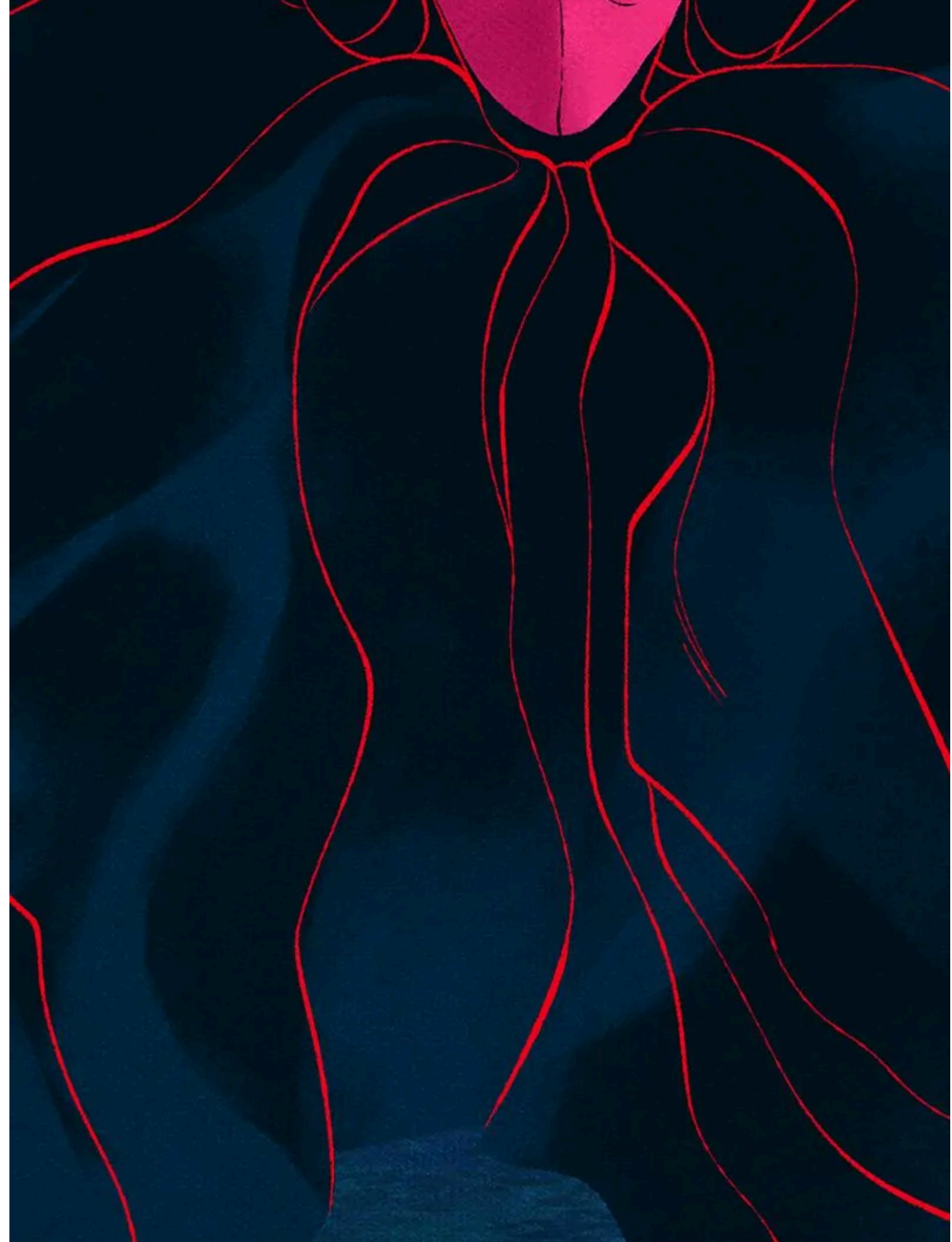




**Yesterday, at approximately
11:30 p.m., we conducted a
risky operation to gain a**

... risky operation to gain a
strategic advantage over
Kronos.





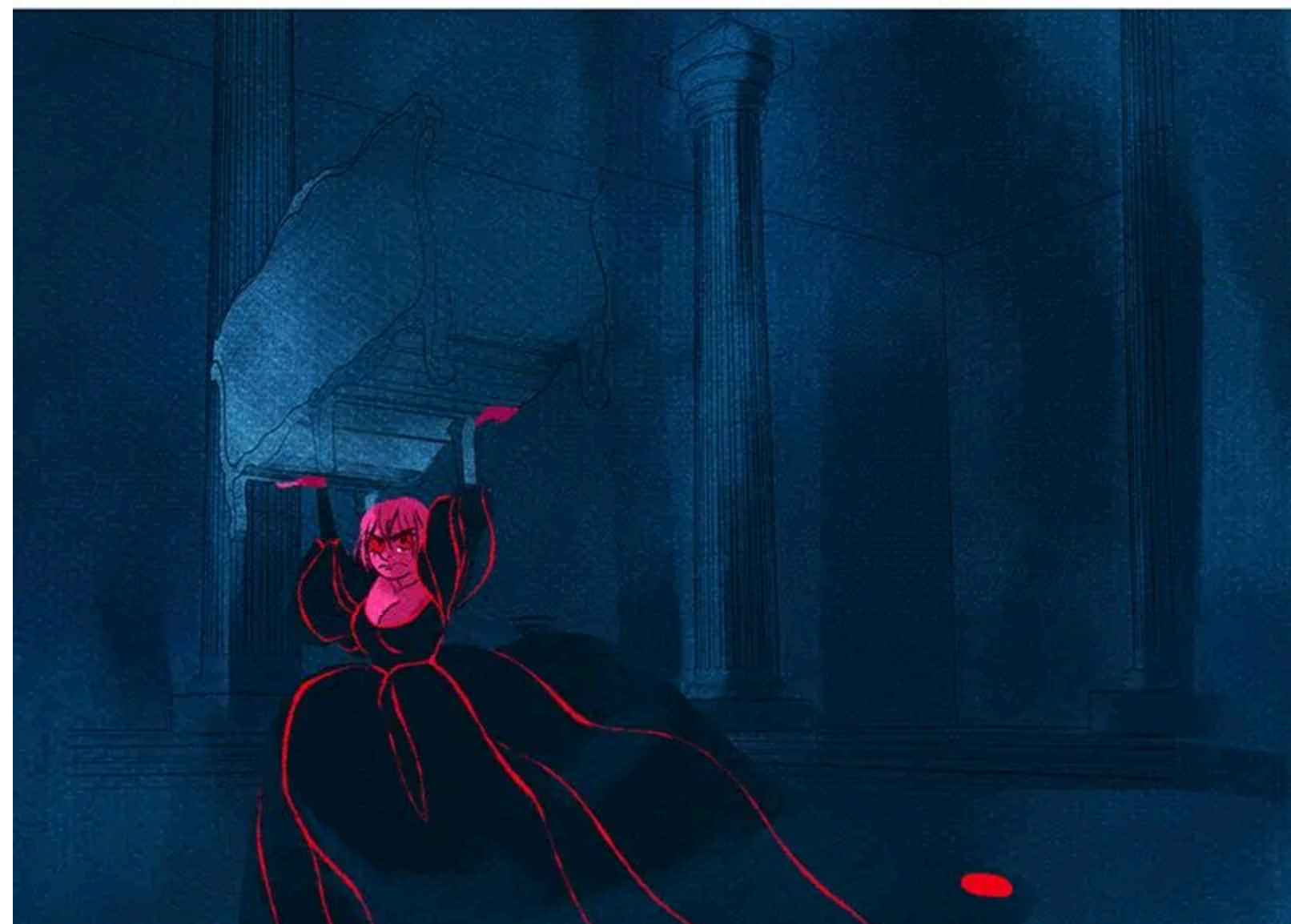



We anticipated certain difficulties;
however, what we did not foresee
was the complete disappearance of
Hades and Morpheus from this plane
of existence.





I know this news is deeply
distressing, but they are resilient.
In turn, we must be the same.






Though this is an
unprecedented situation, it is
not the first the Underworld
has faced. Have faith in their

return. The alternative is not
an option.





Thank you.





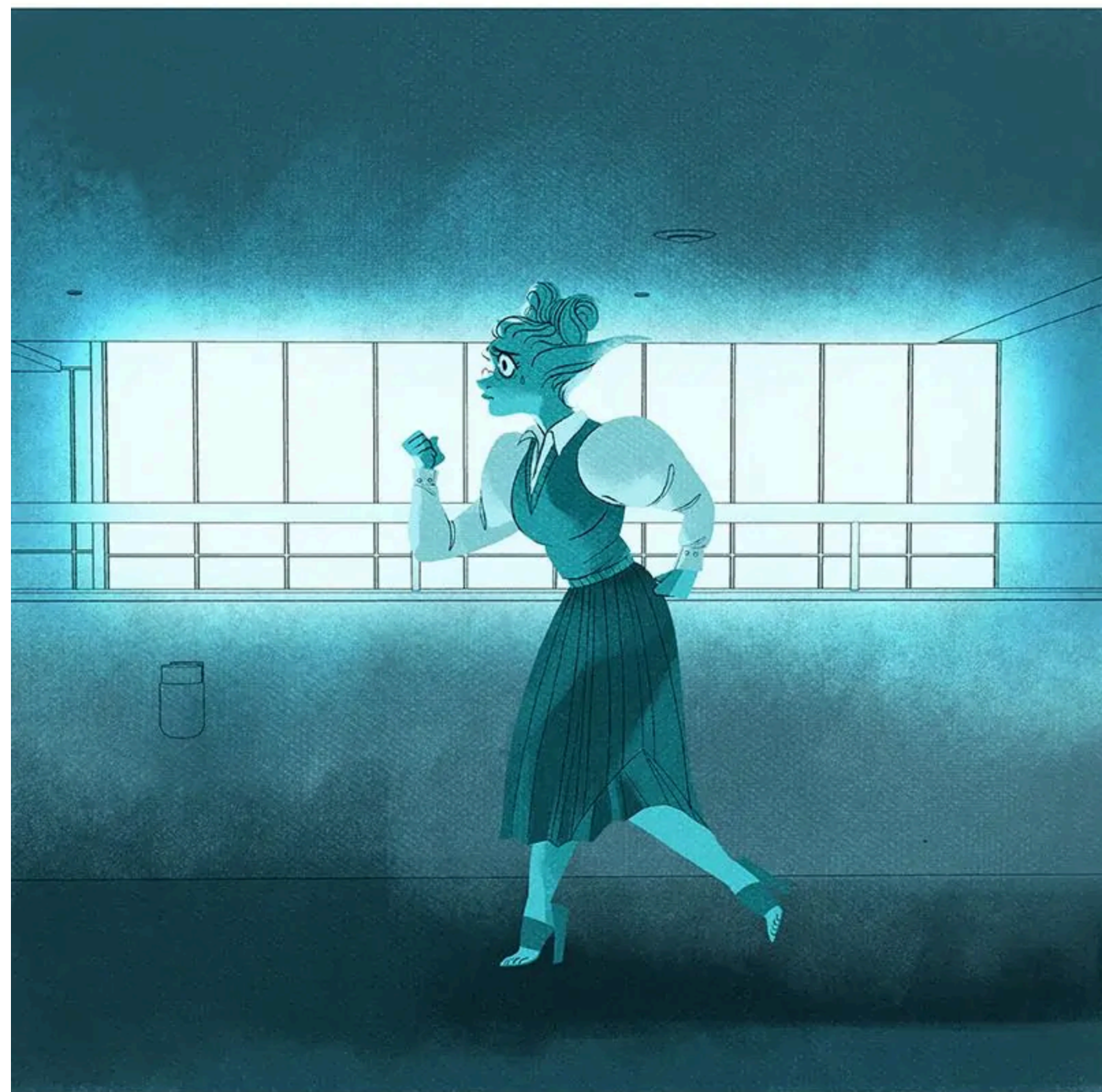
CLICK




HUFF



HUFF







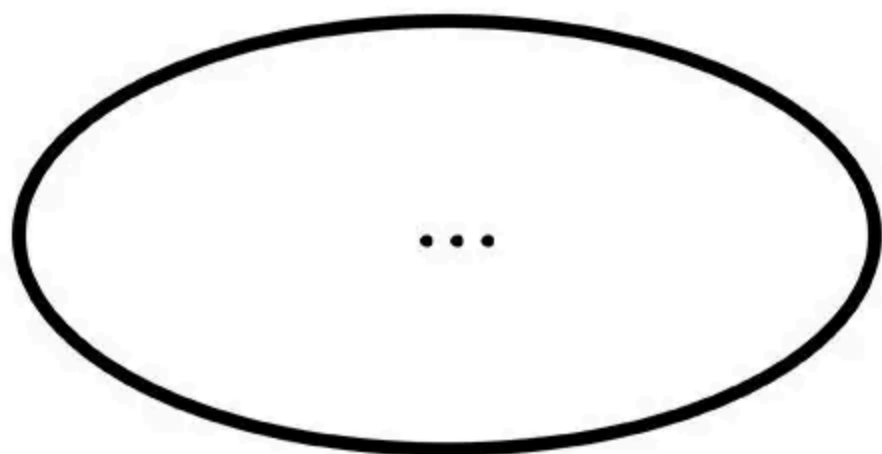
Have you seen Persephone?
I have an important
message for her.



She's with the
medic.

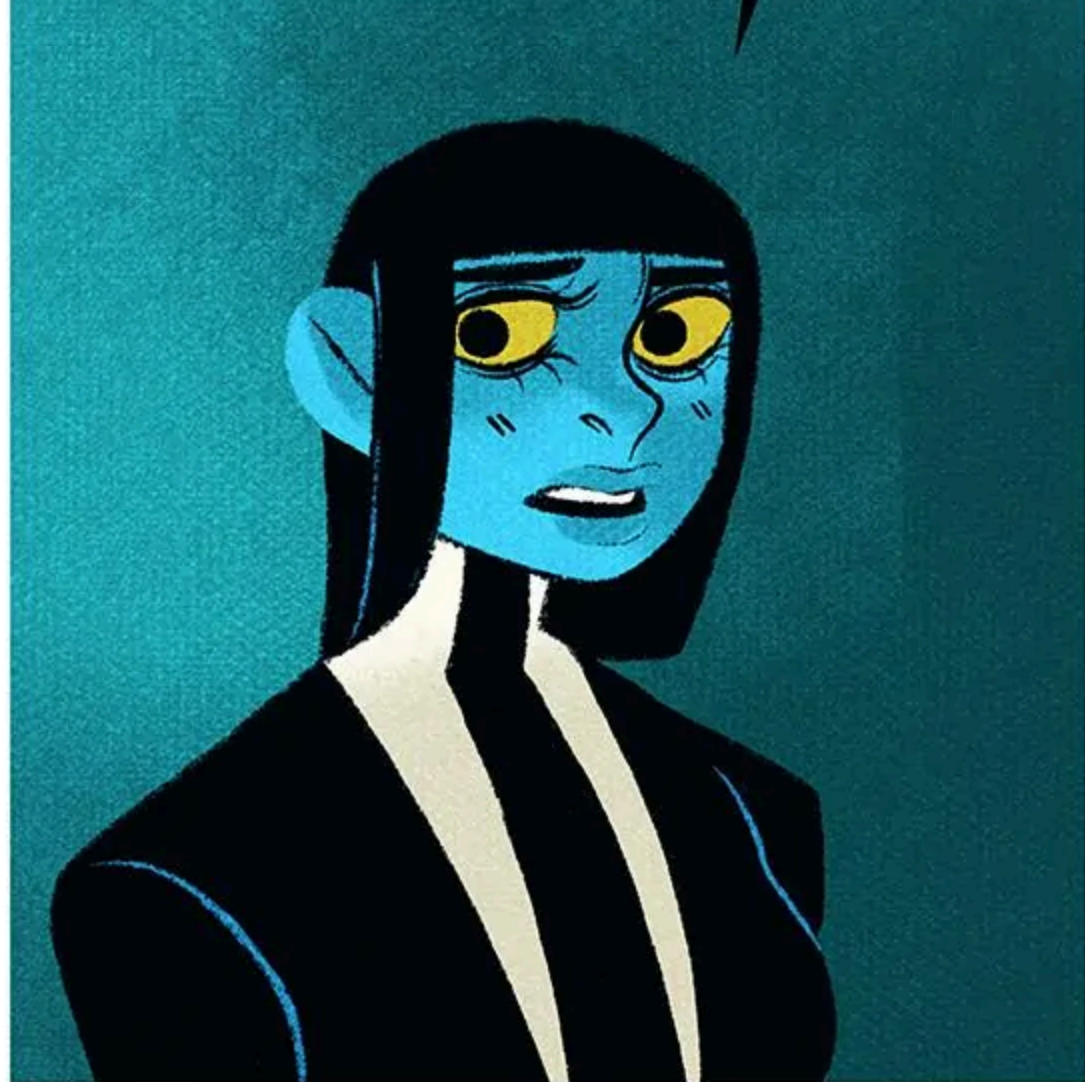
They wanted to
check that she's
okay.



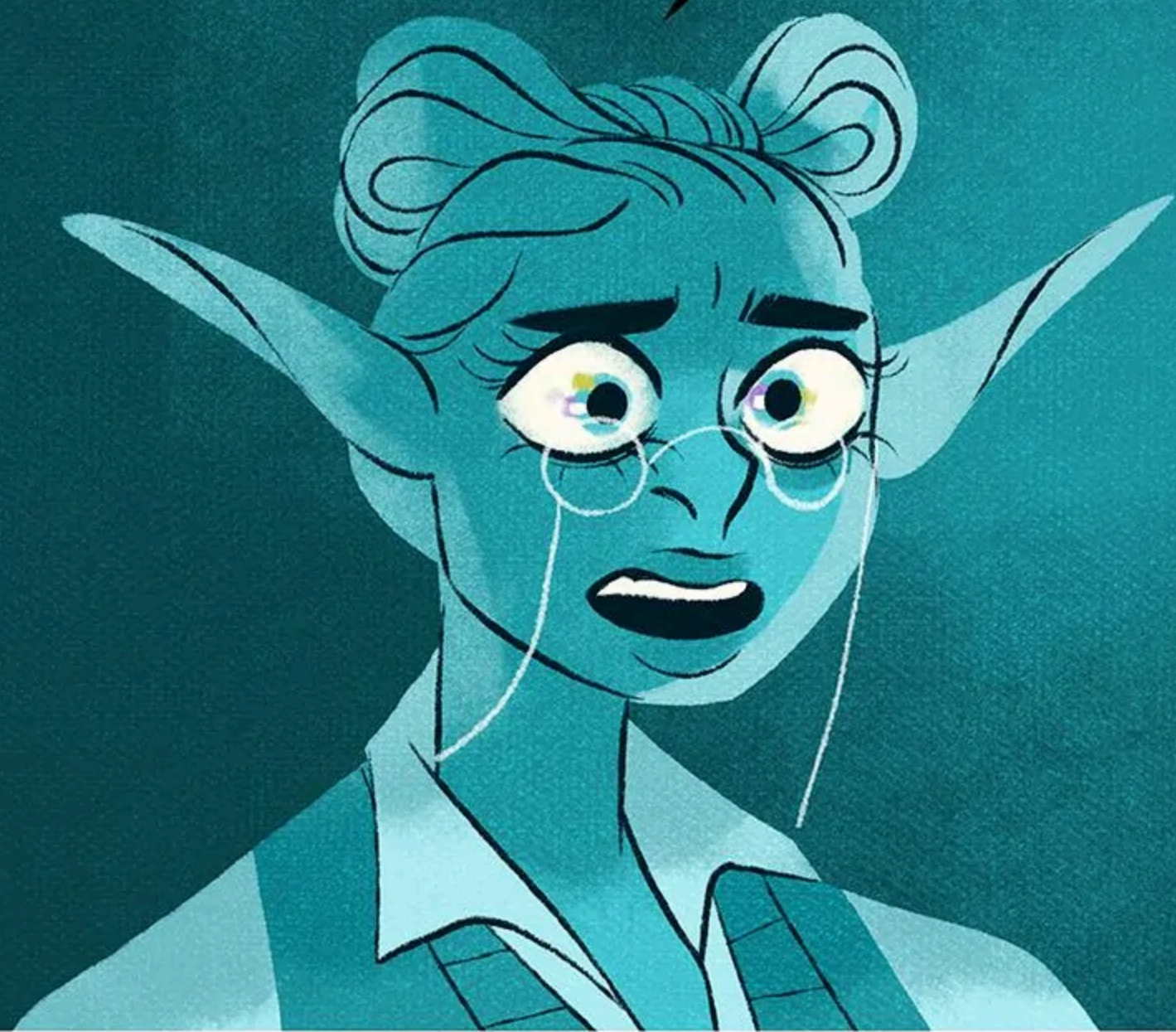




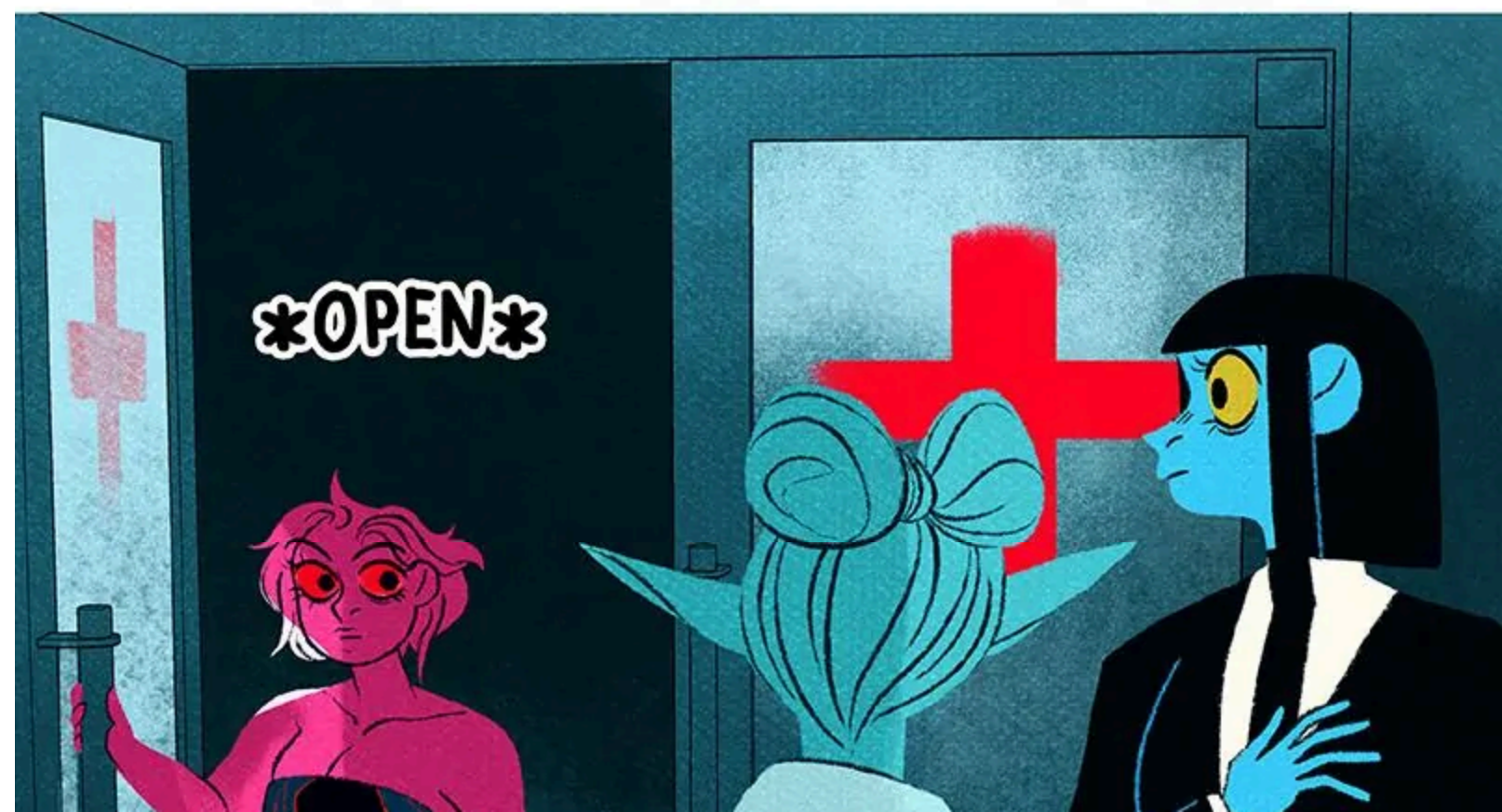
What is it?



Well, it's—



OPEN



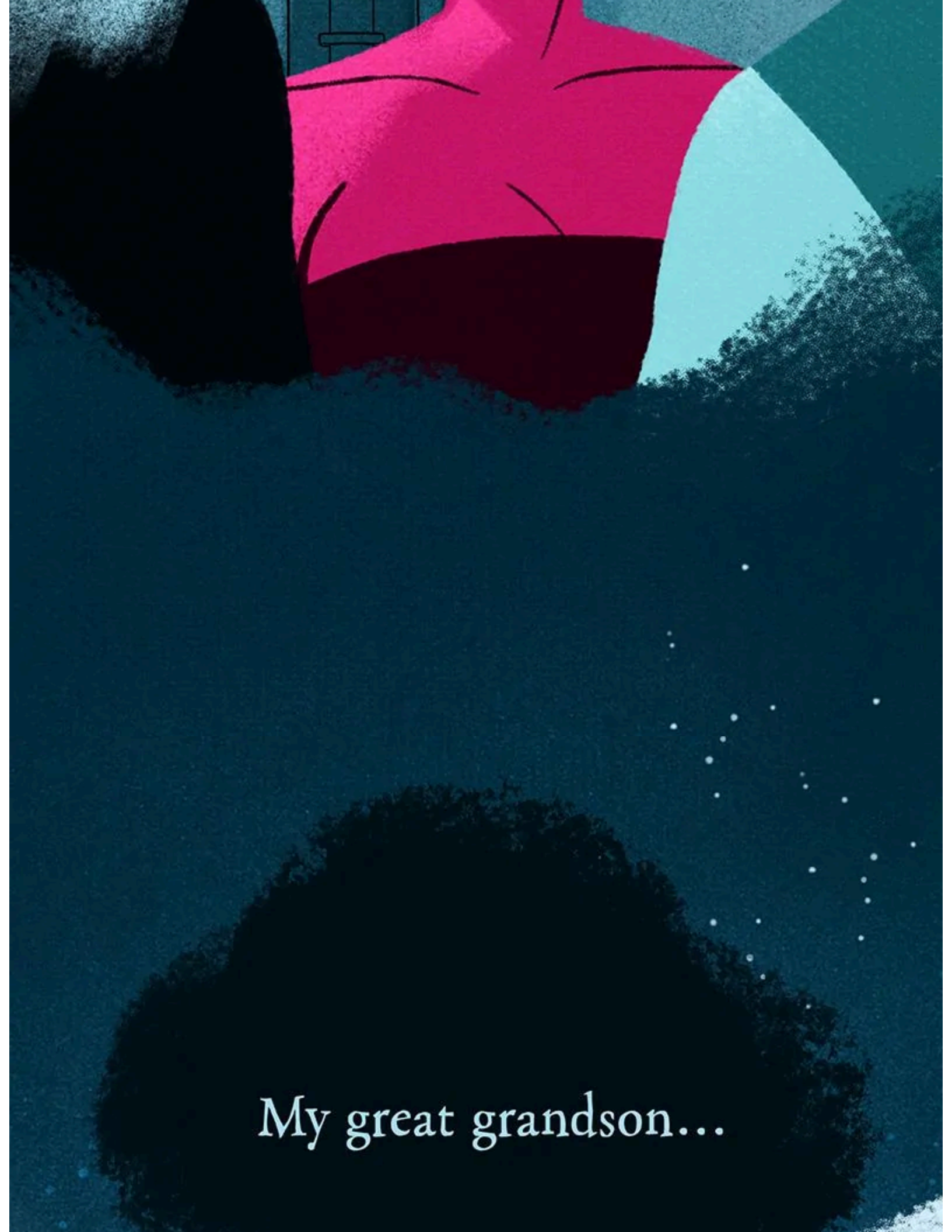




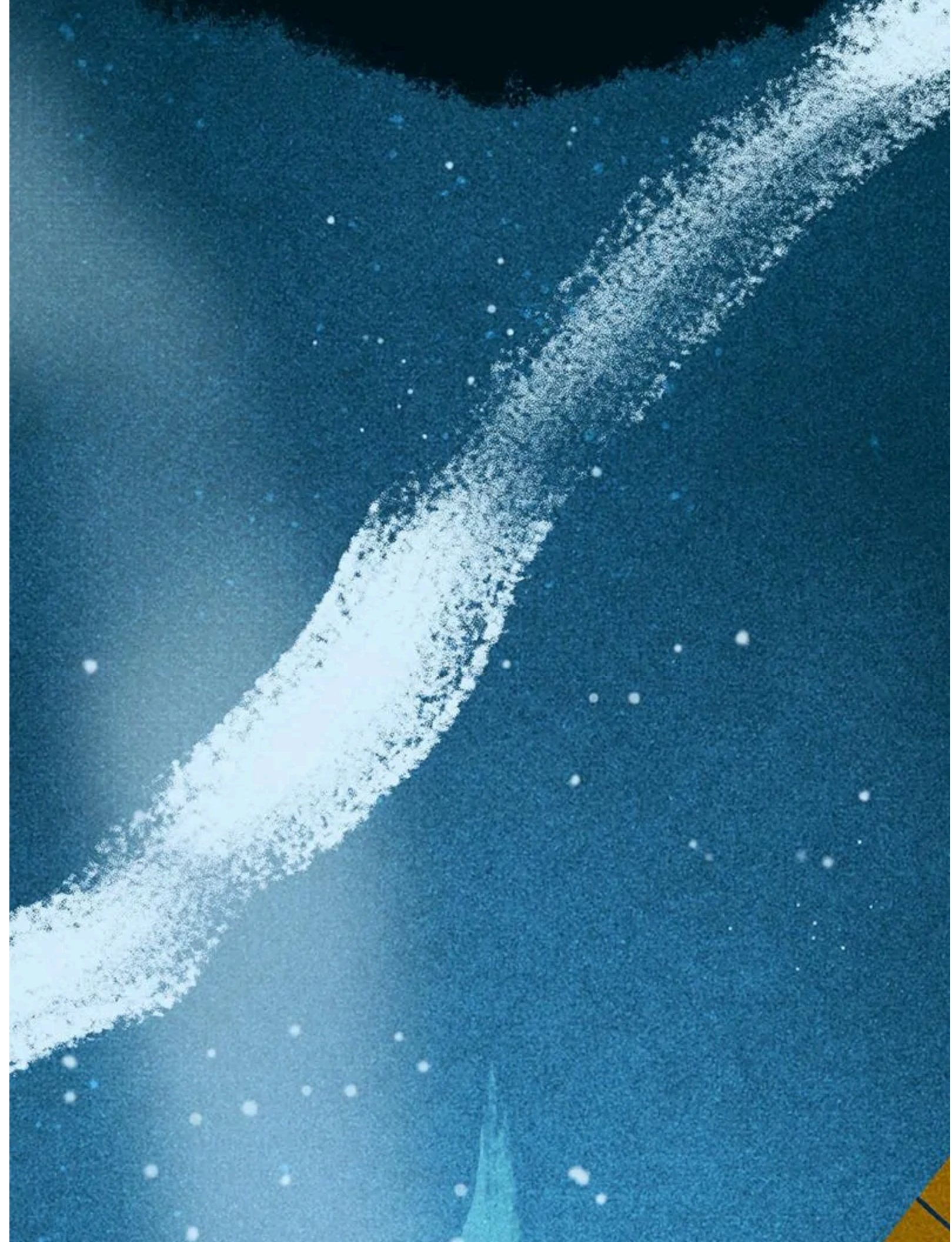


Oh gods,
what is it now?






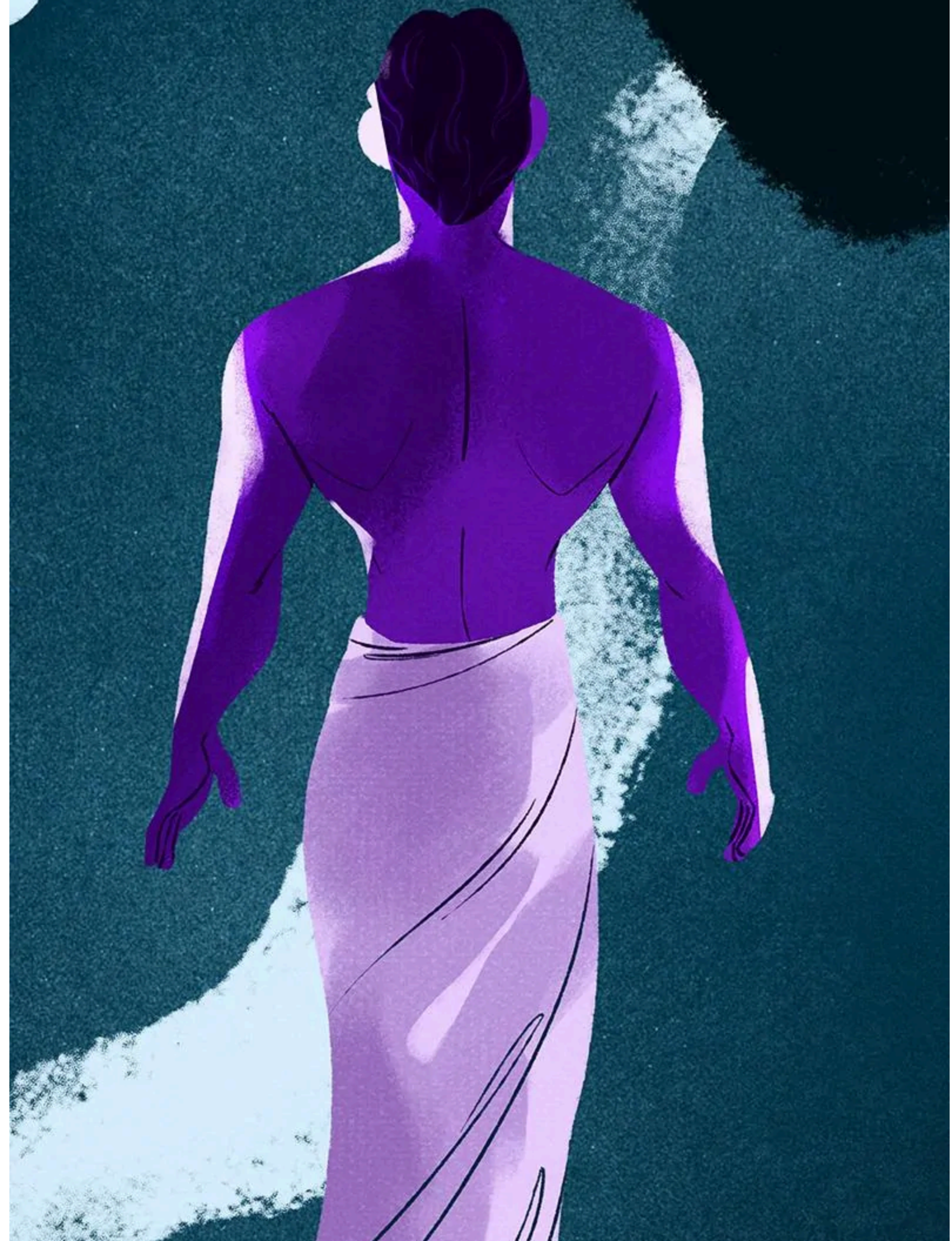
My great grandson...

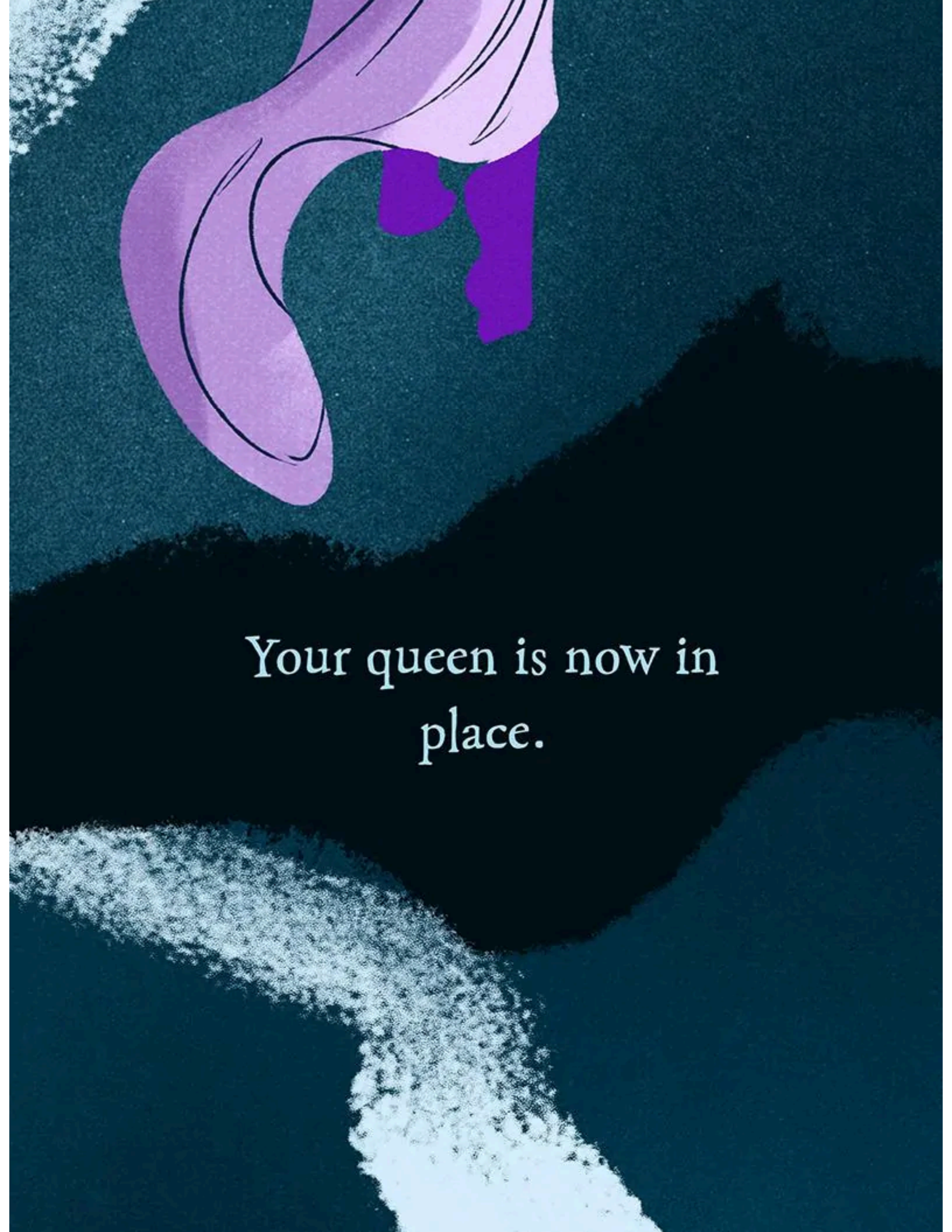




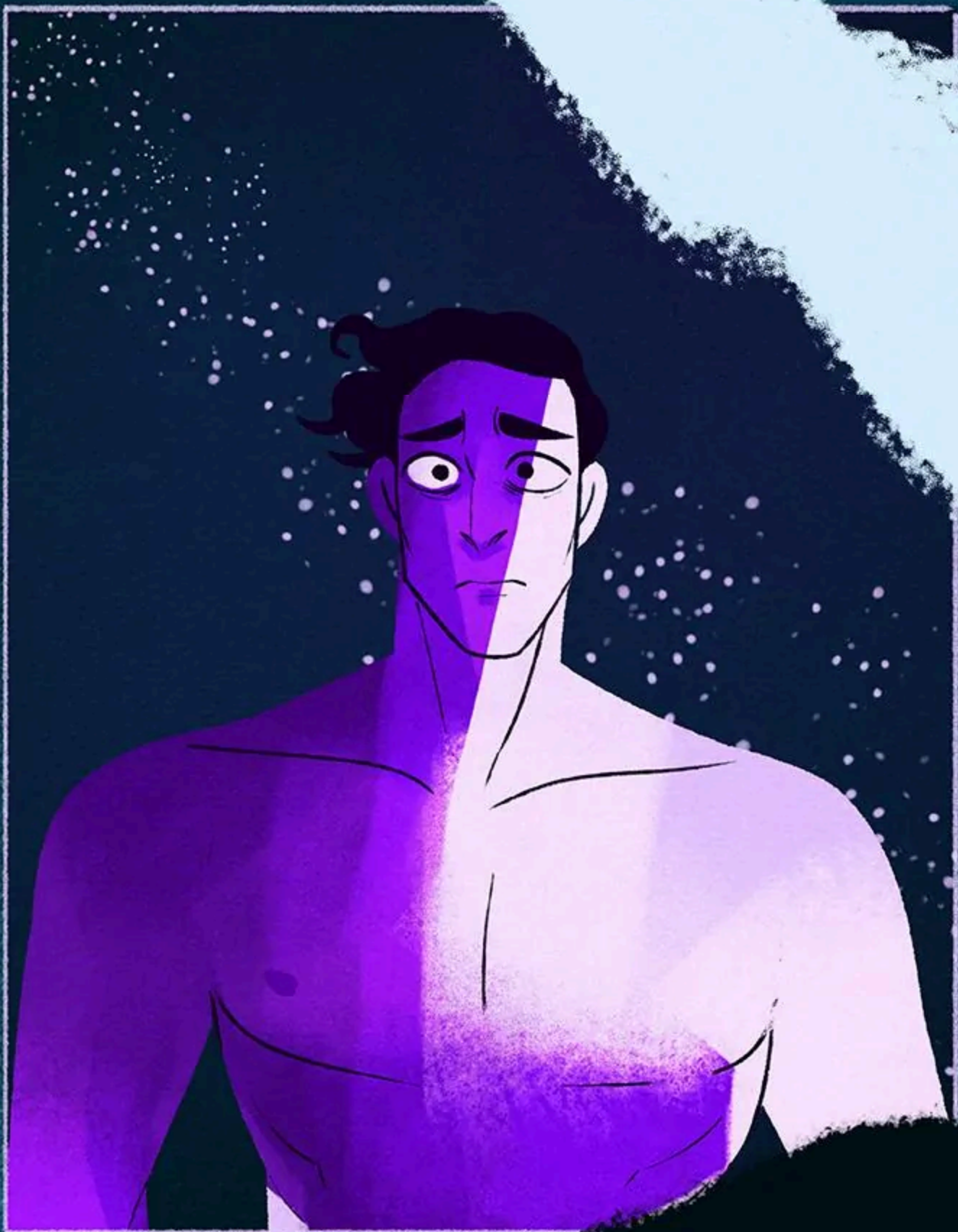


The King of the
Underworld is gone.






Your queen is now in
place.




Your time has arrived.



How will I get
everyone on my
side, though?

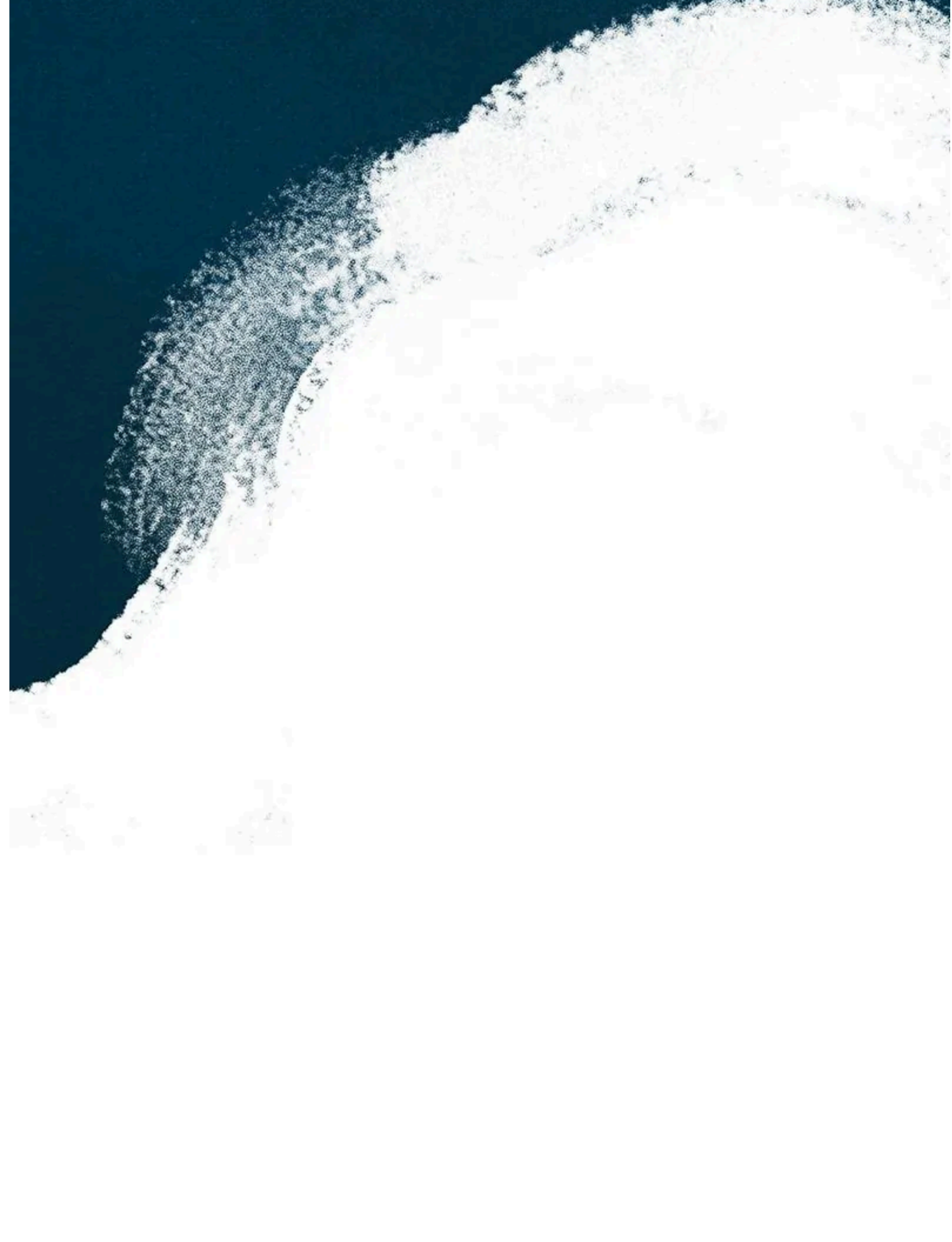
Convincing the
general public is one
thing. But the other
gods...



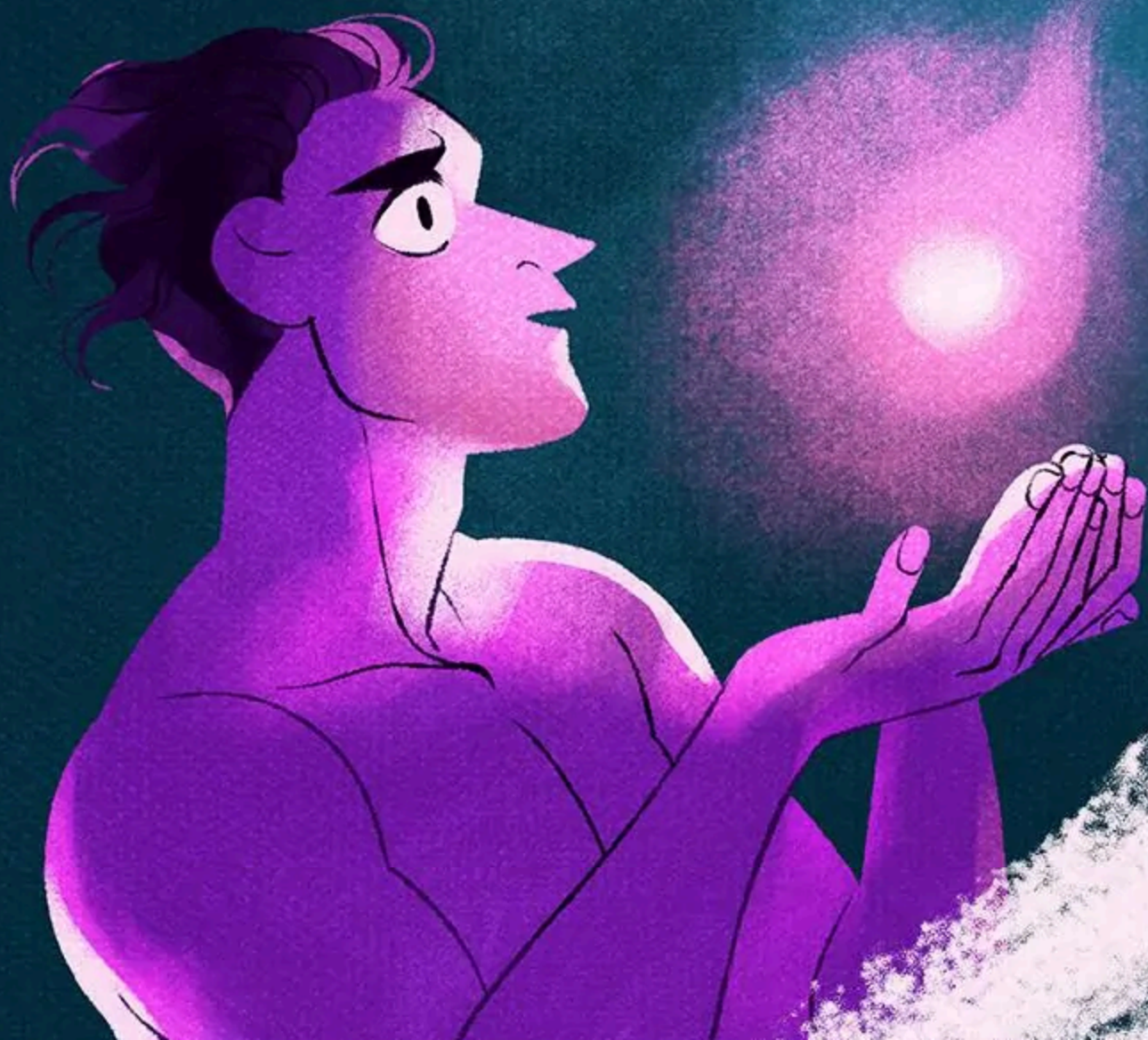
The background is a dark, textured blue with lighter blue, wavy, organic shapes. In the bottom right corner, a hand is shown from the wrist down, with the index finger pointing towards a bright, glowing yellow and white spot. The hand is rendered in a simple, stylized manner with dark outlines. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

I have been working on
something for you.



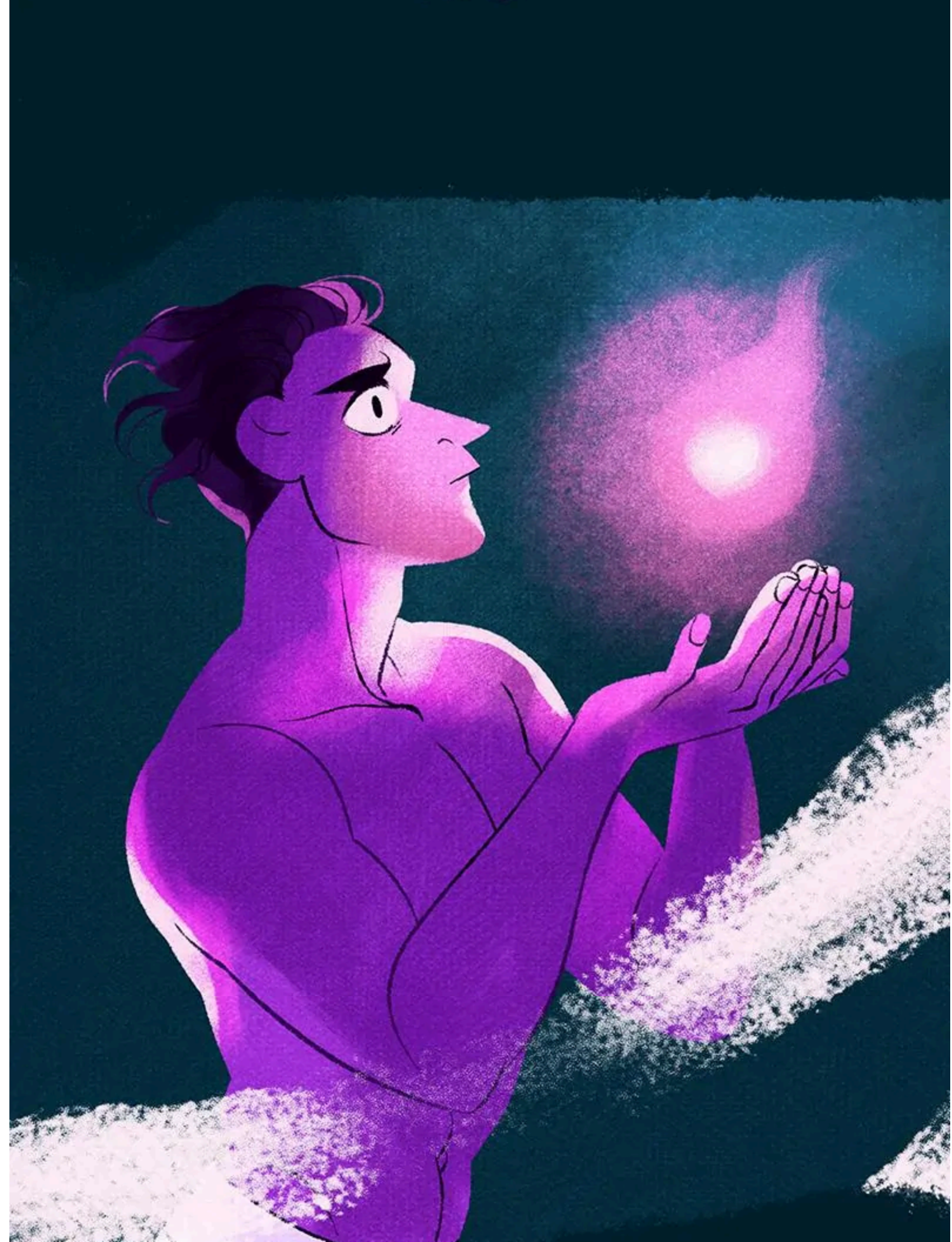


Will this solve the
plague?



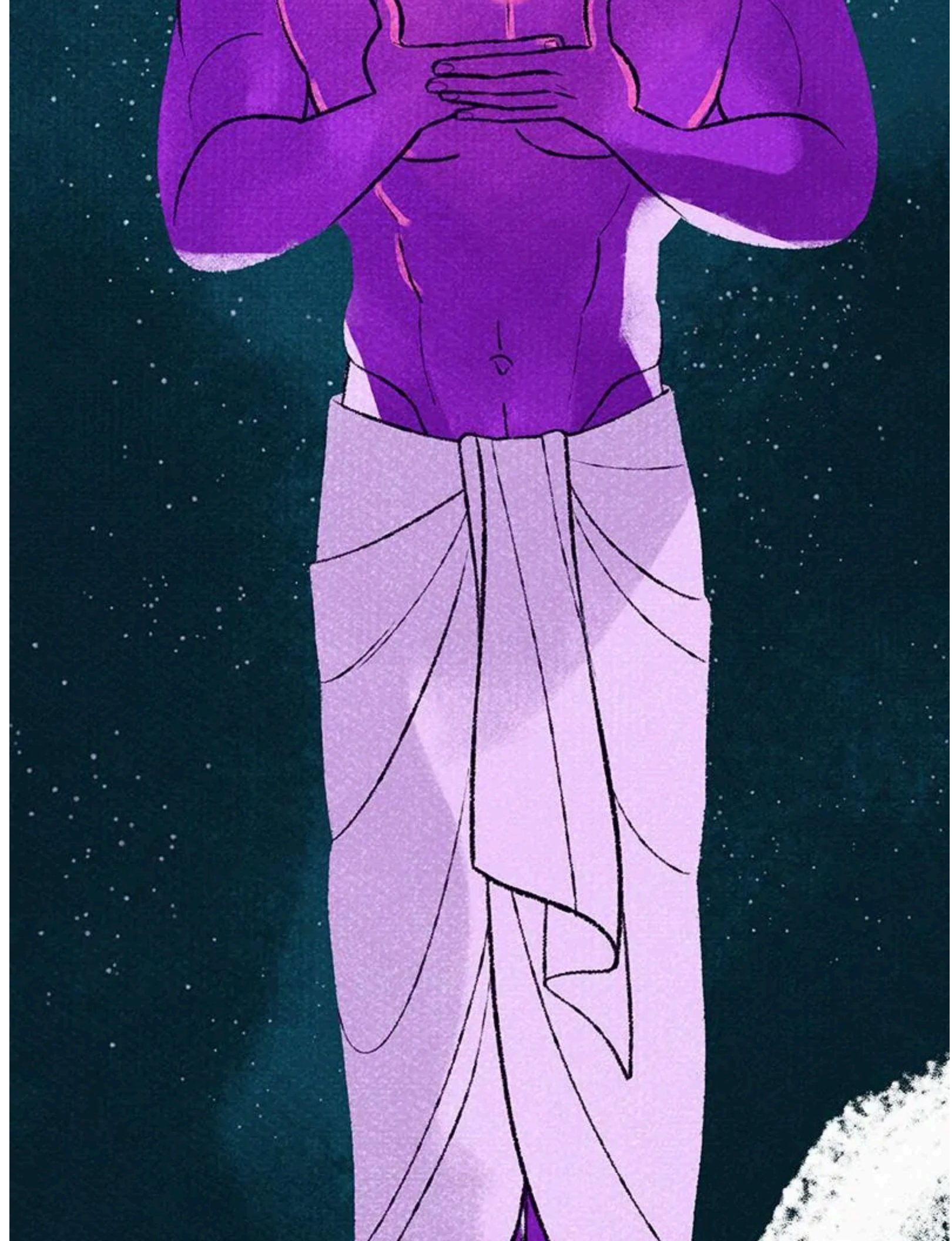



No, not on its
own.



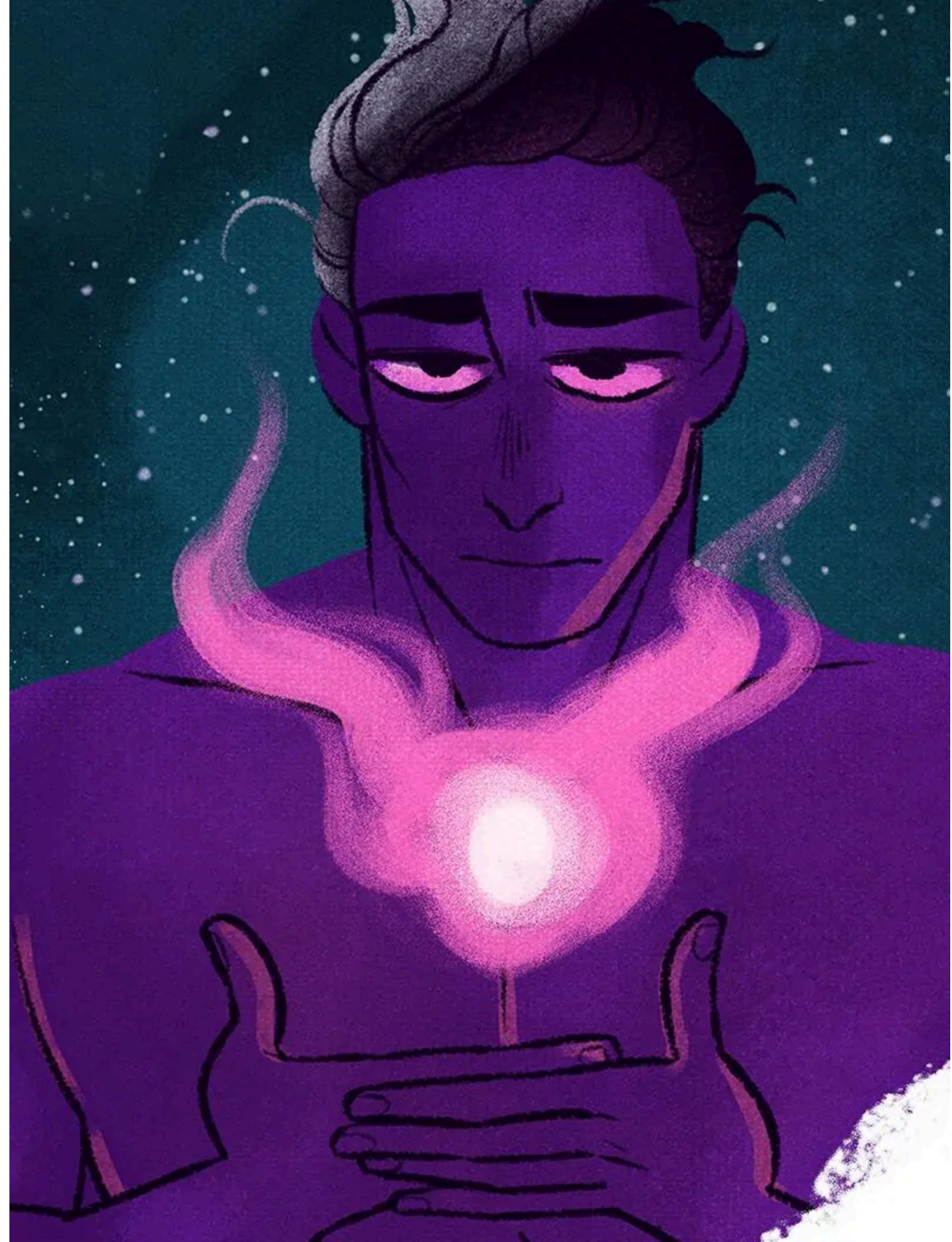
But it will be enough to convince
all who oppose you that your union
with Persephone is necessary.







The rest will fall in line once
you have her.

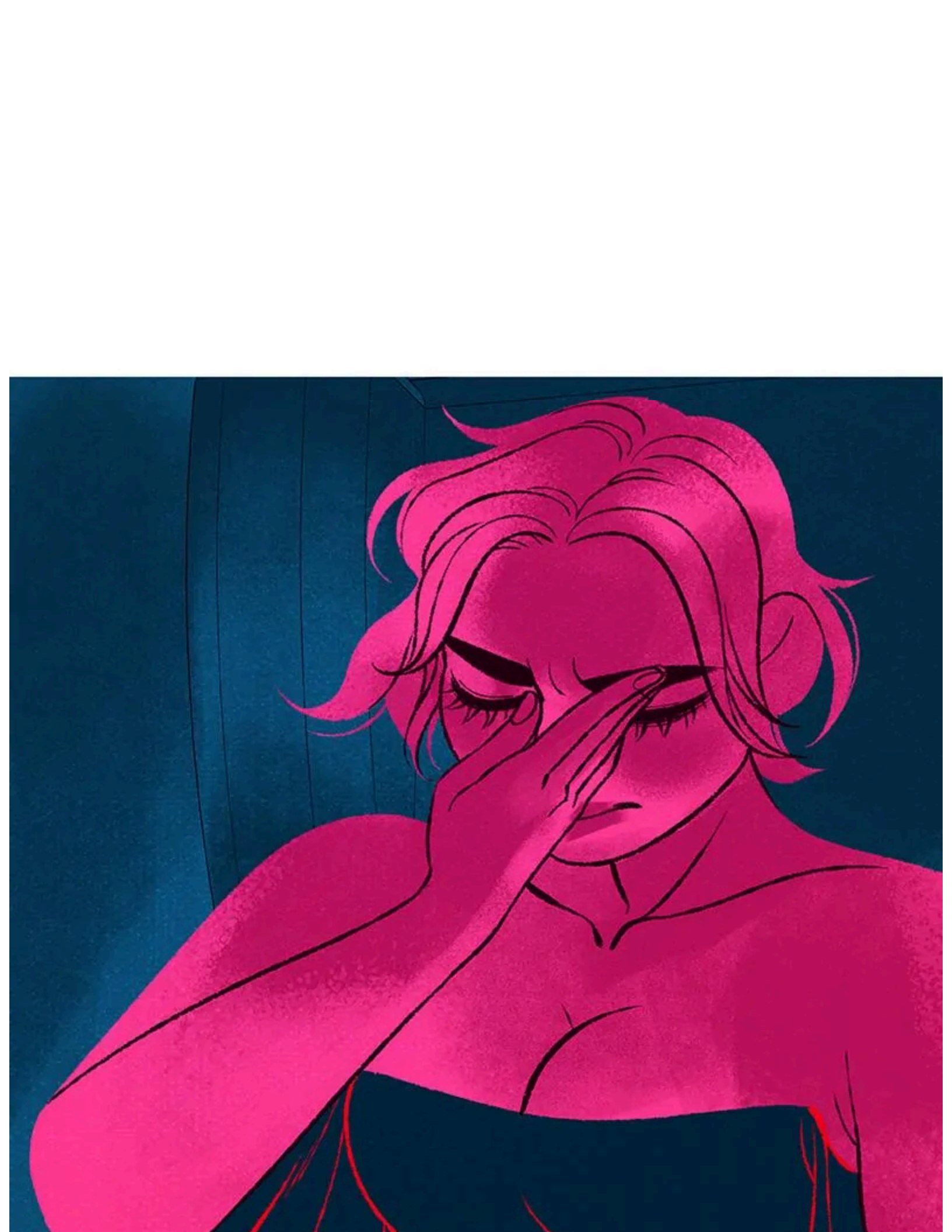


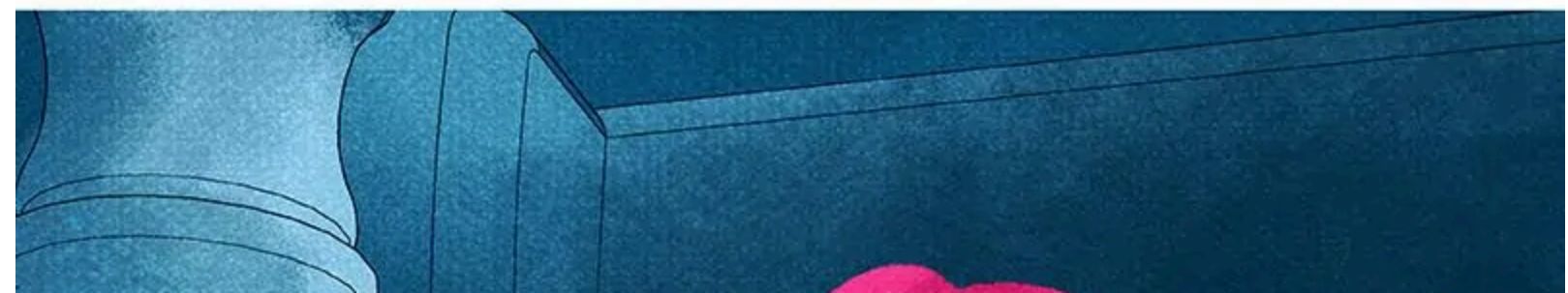










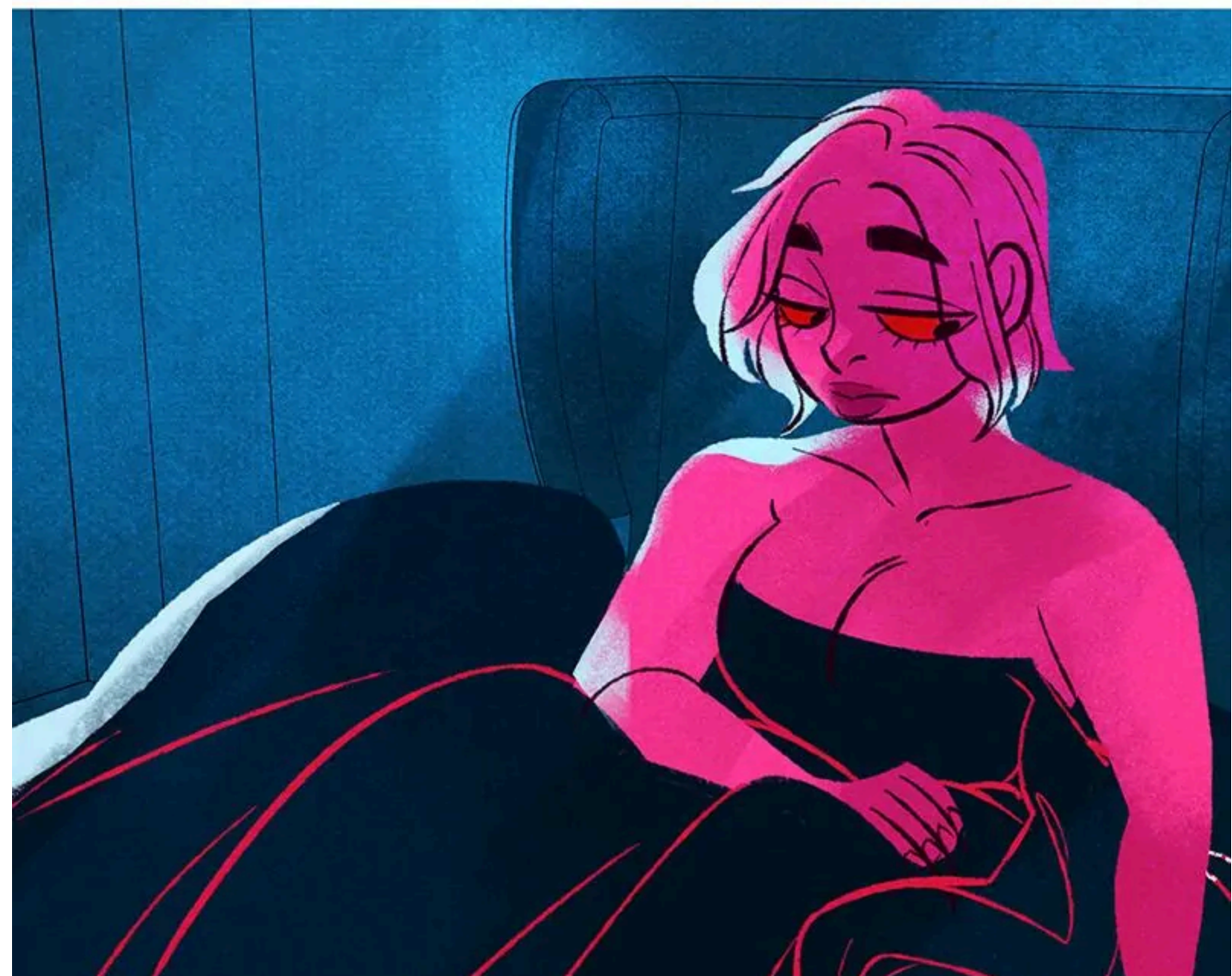




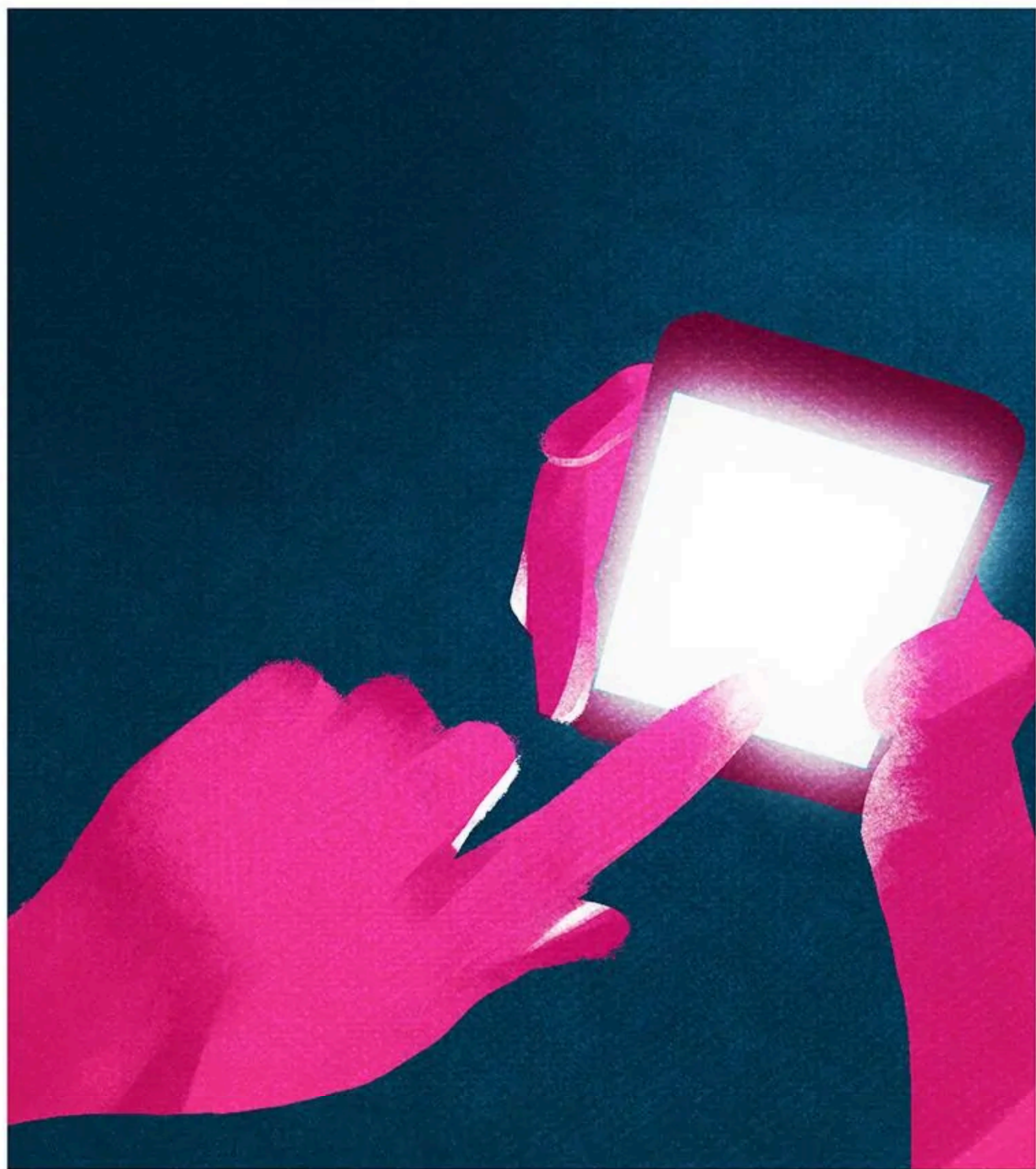
My king, I've got you.

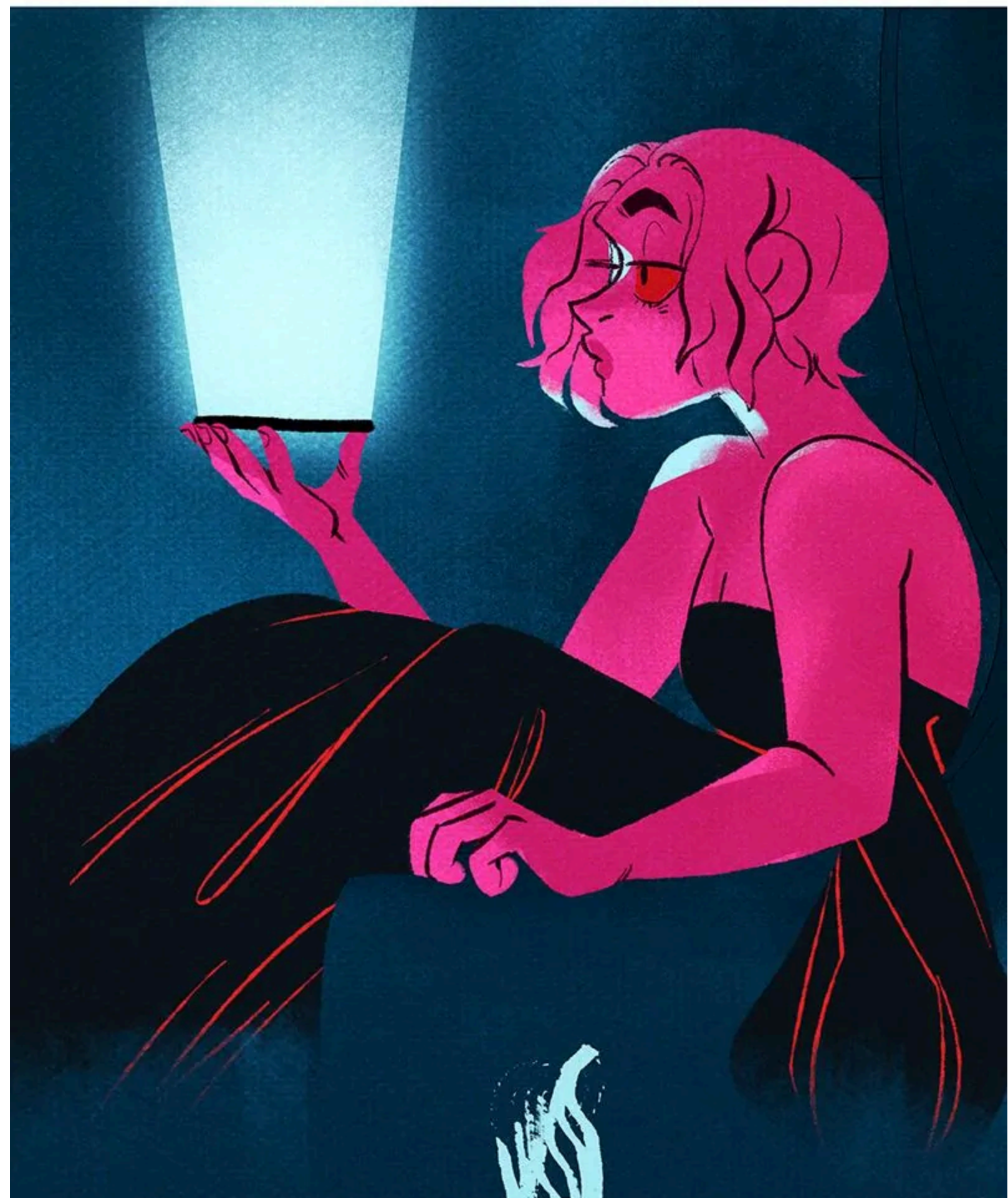


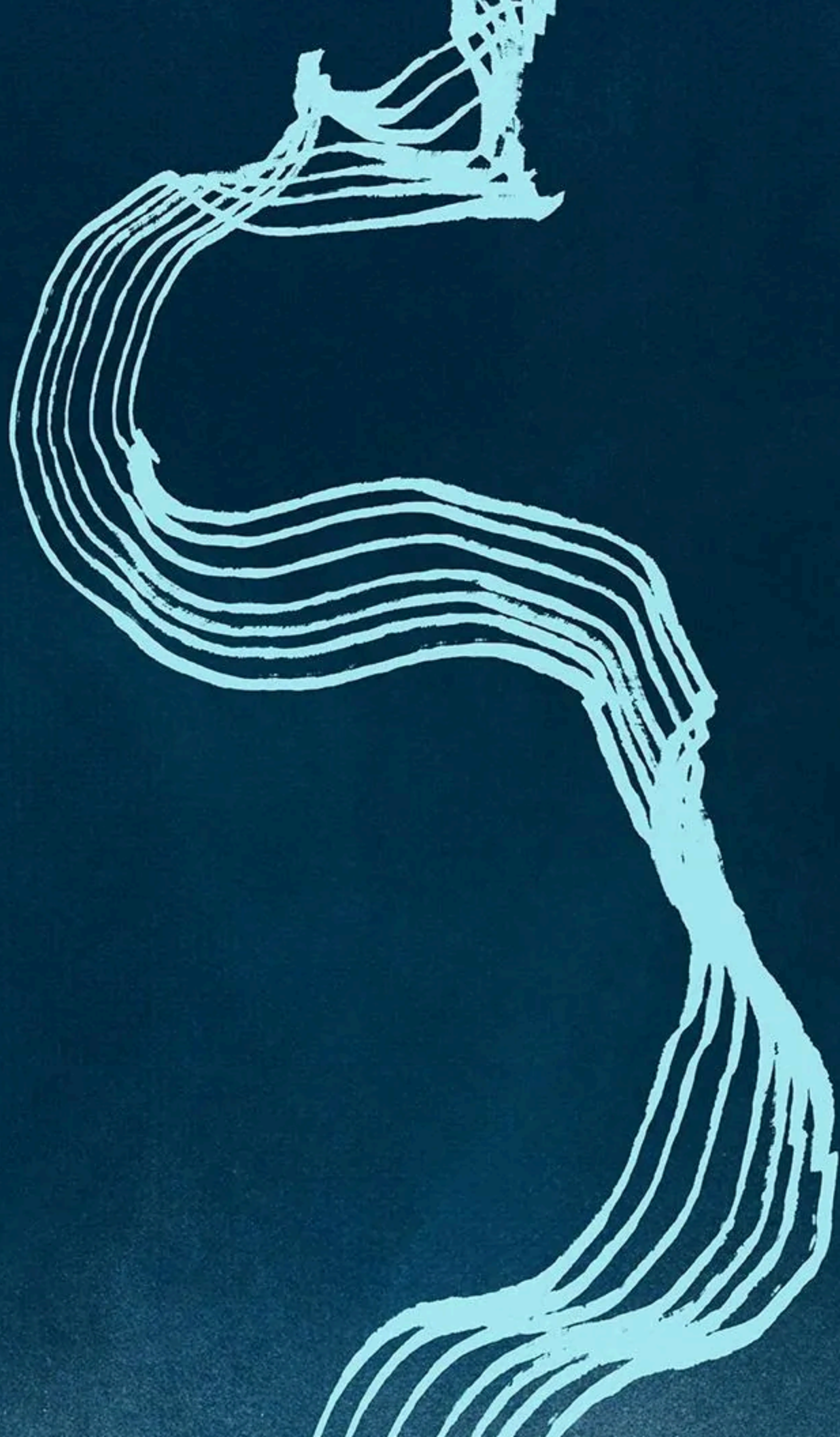


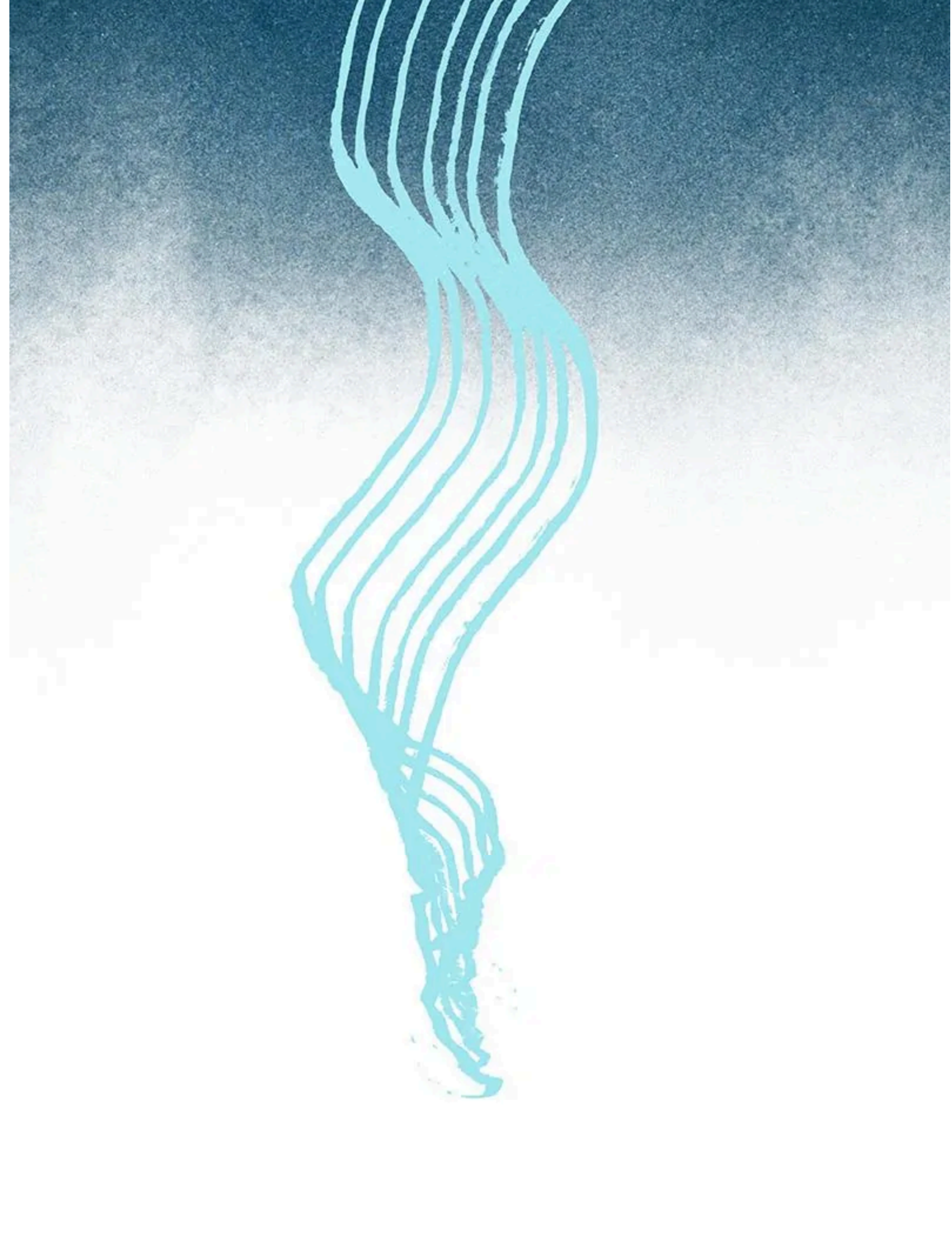




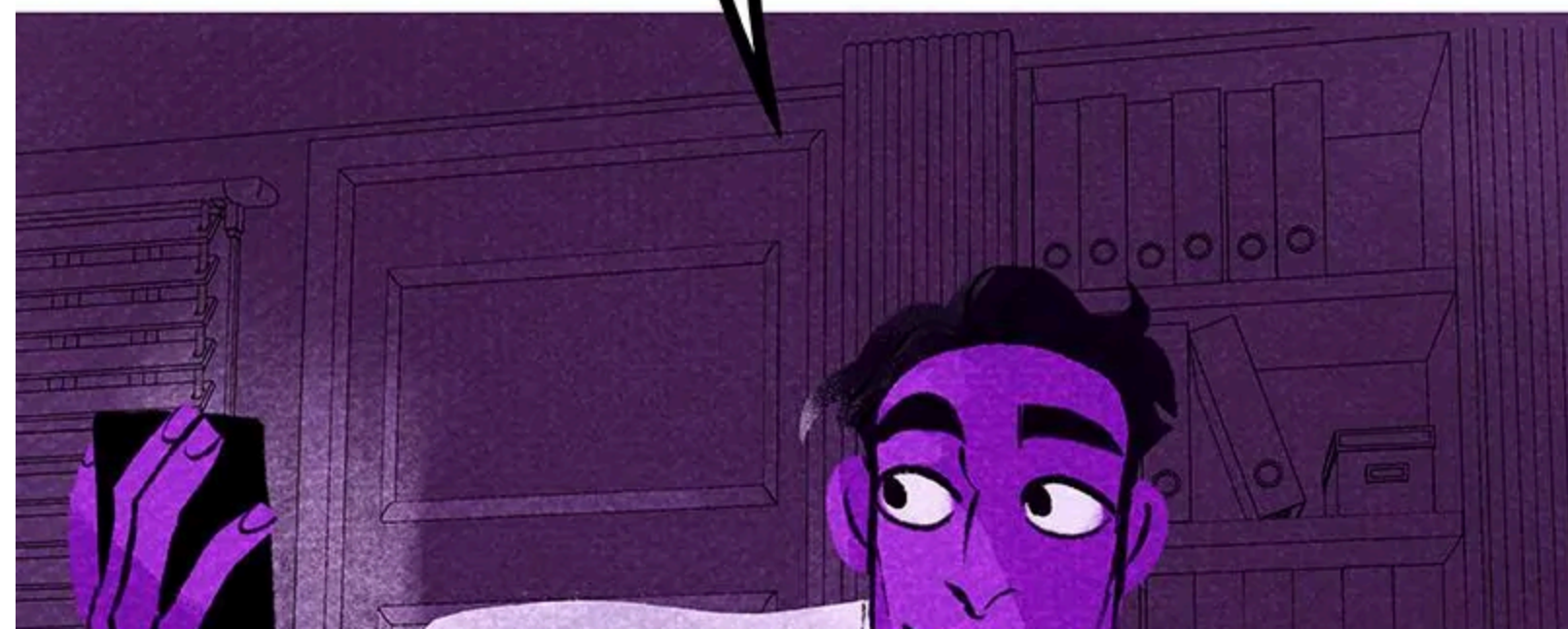








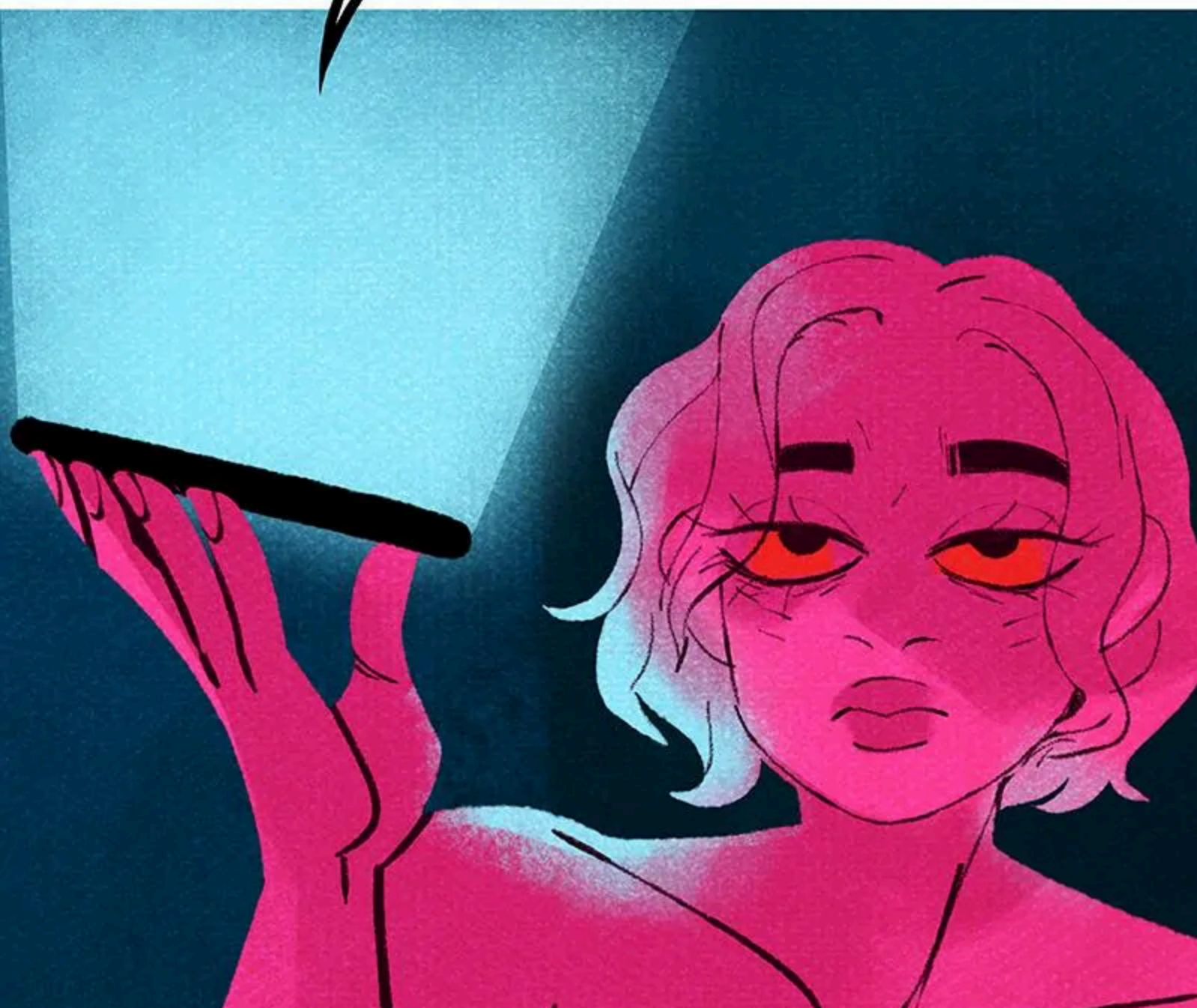
Persie, thank you so
much for returning
my call.

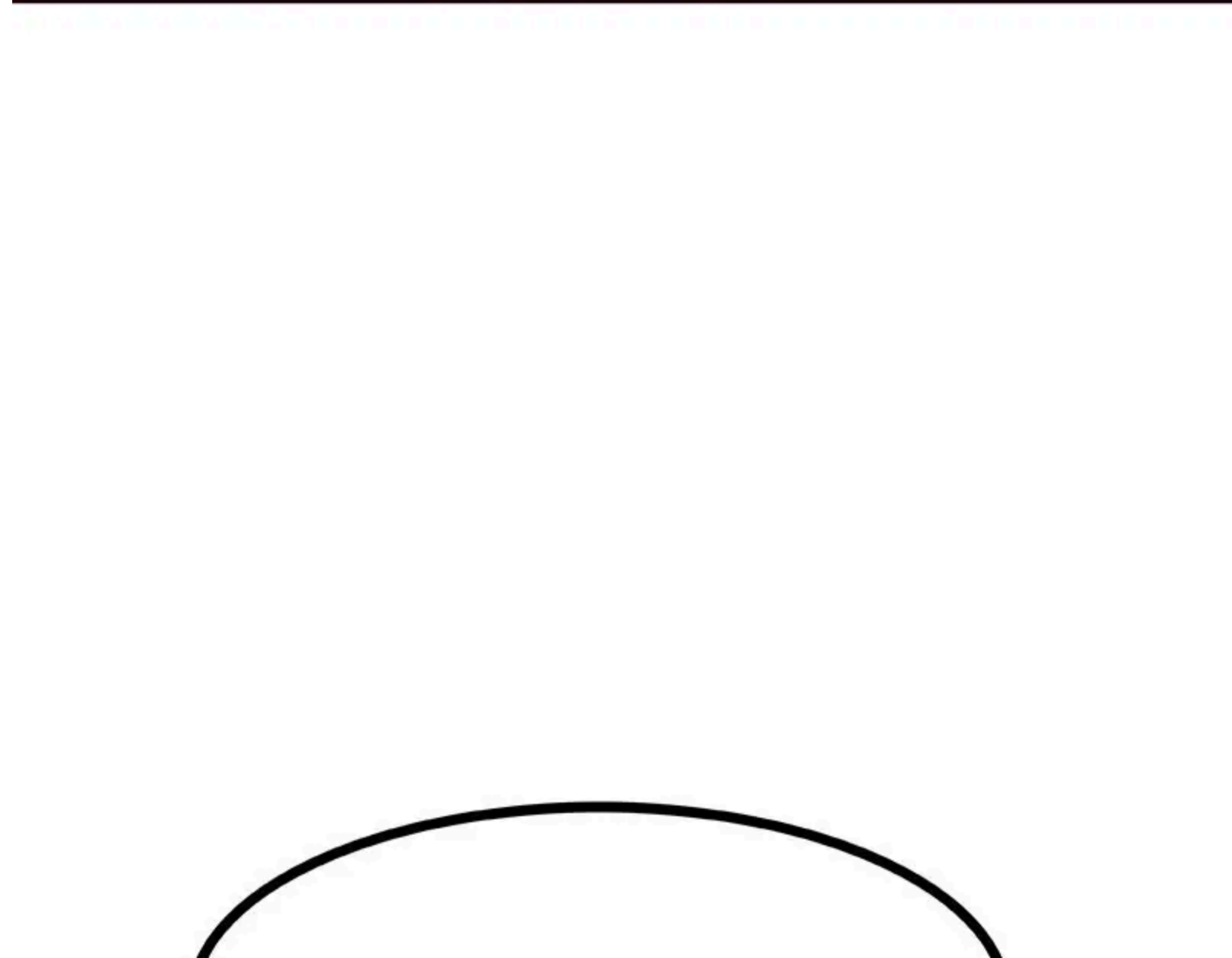




I suppose you can't use

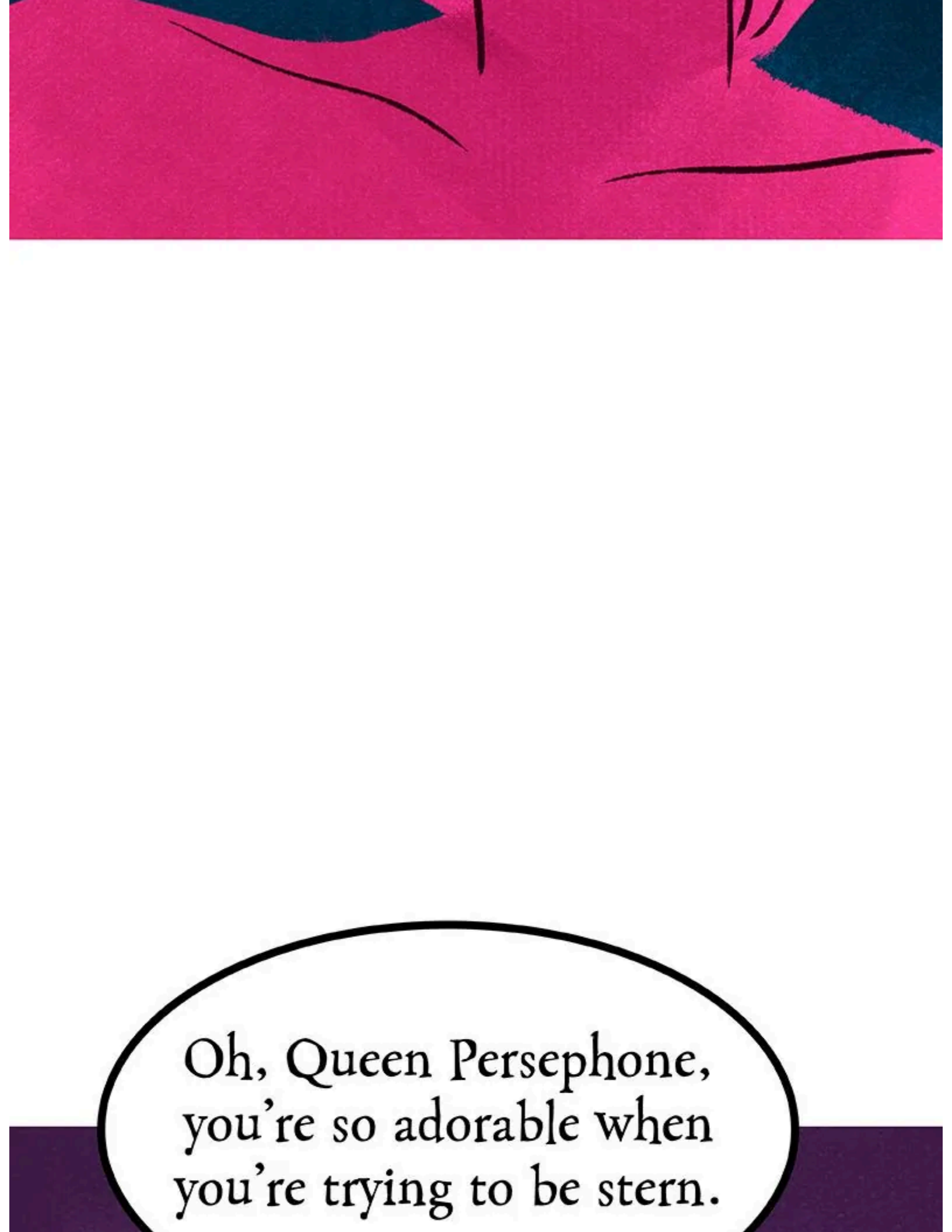
Hades as a buffer anymore,
and you have no option
but to speak to me.





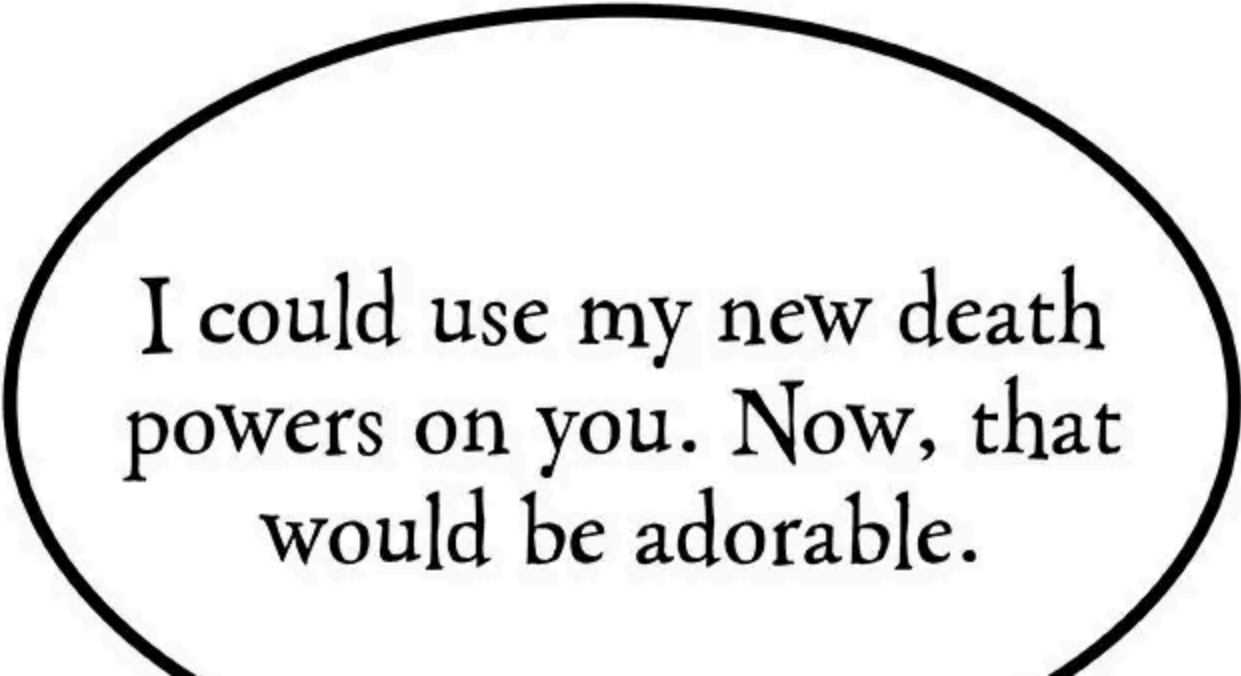

State your business.



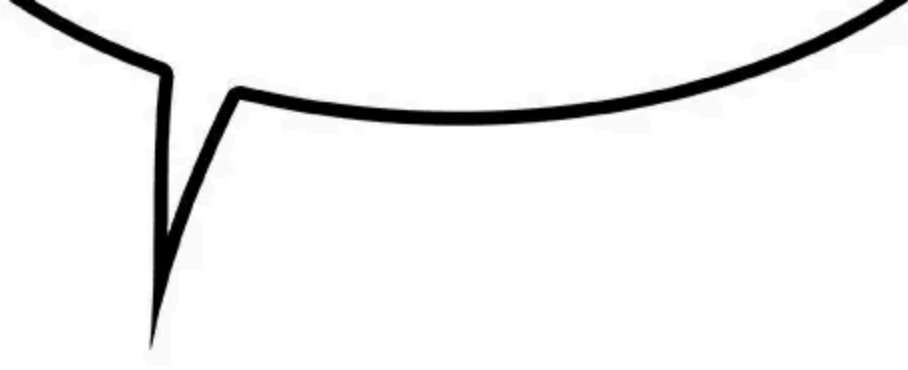


Oh, Queen Persephone,
you're so adorable when
you're trying to be stern.





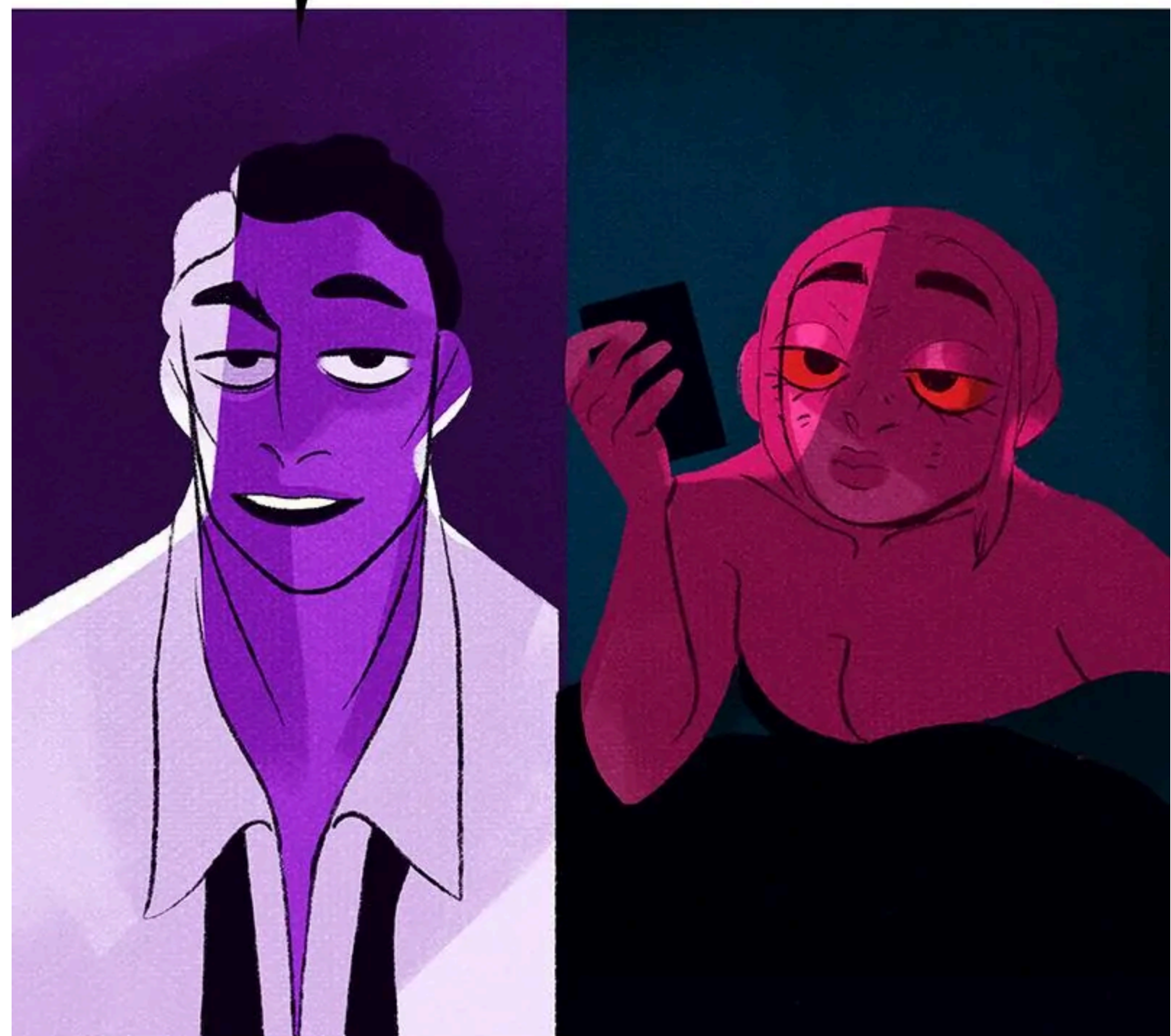
I could use my new death powers on you. Now, that would be adorable.







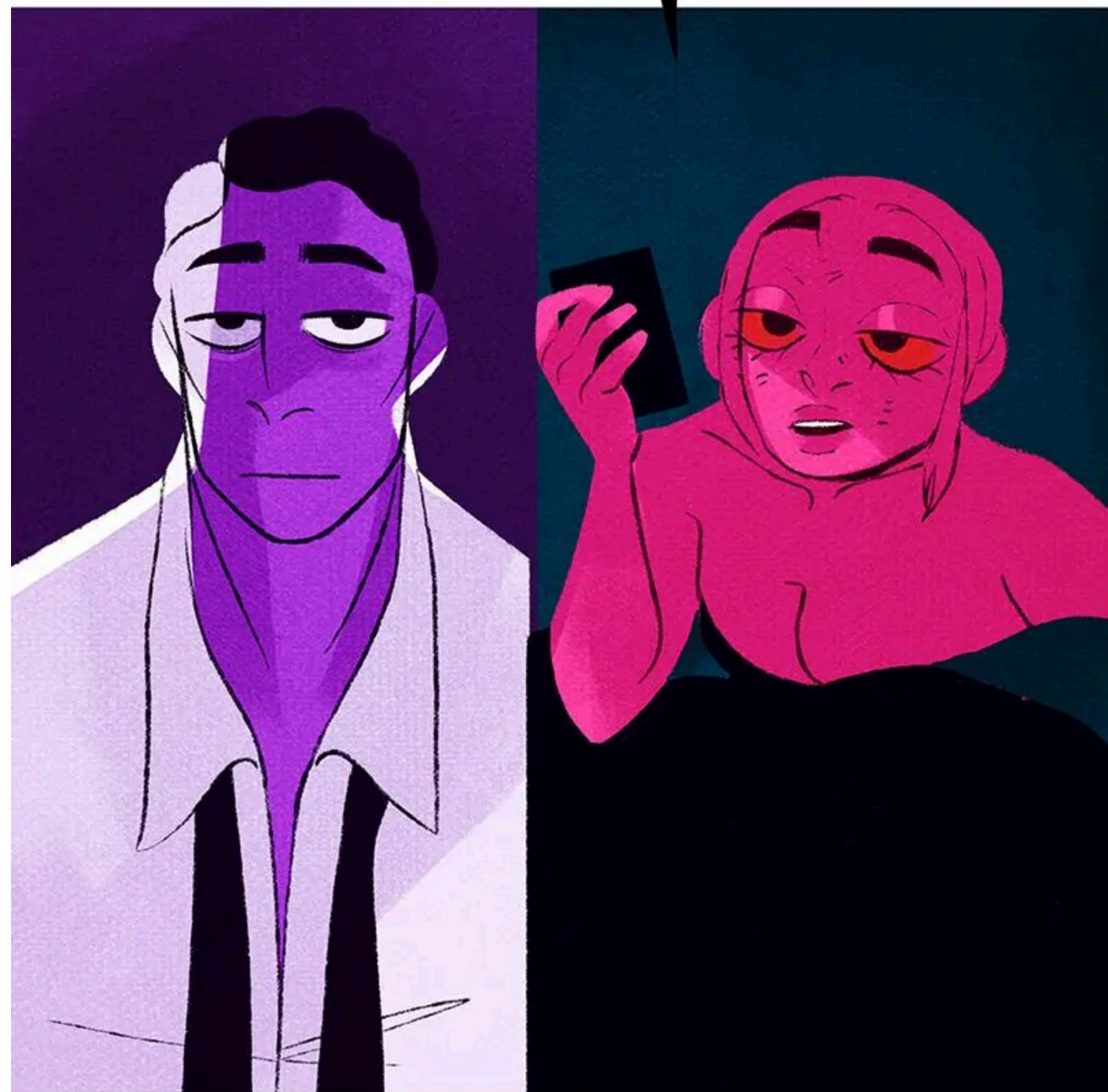
You can't kill me.






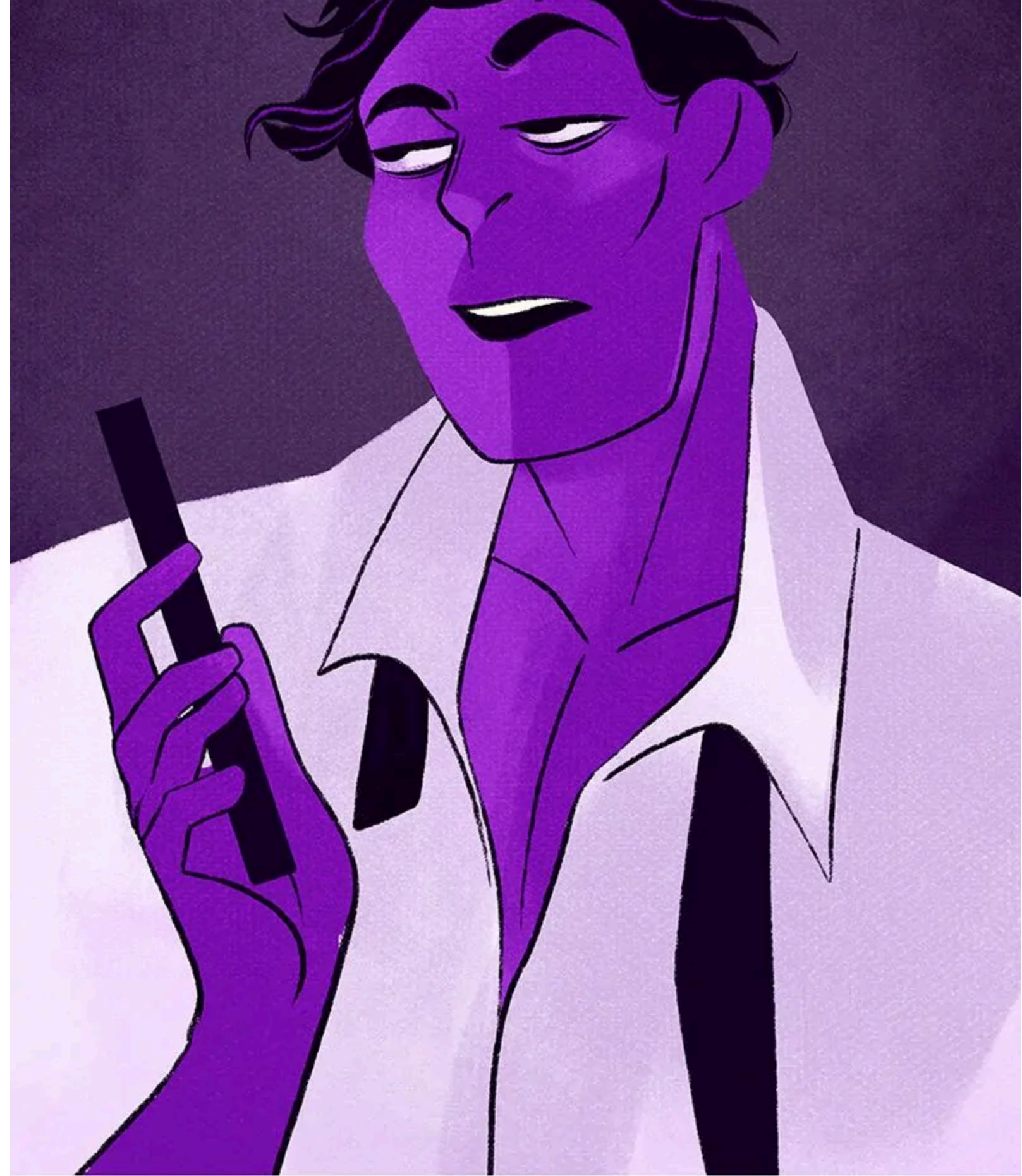


Are you sure?





You're annoying
me now.



I'm holding a meeting
today.





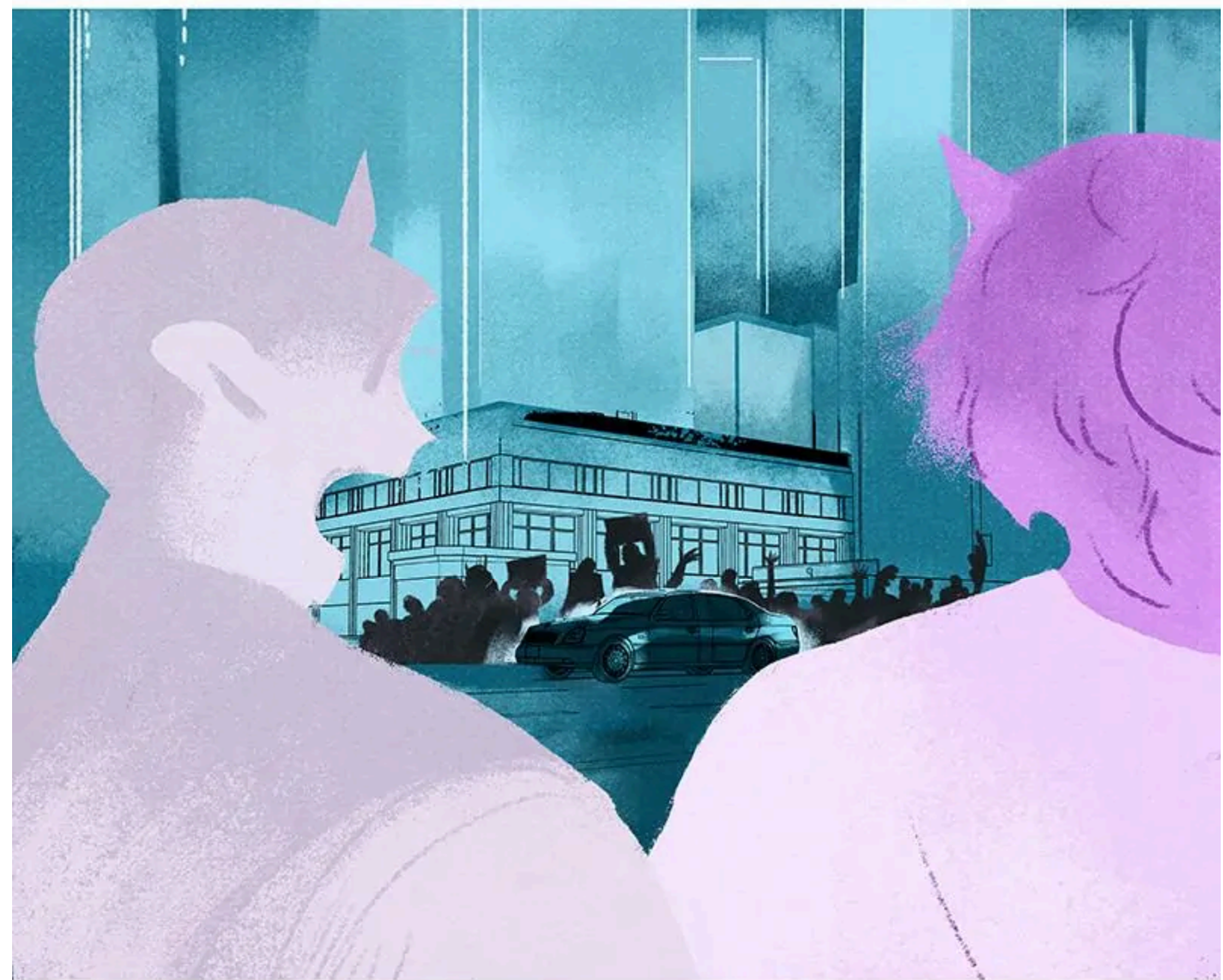
Unlike you,
I've found a
solution.






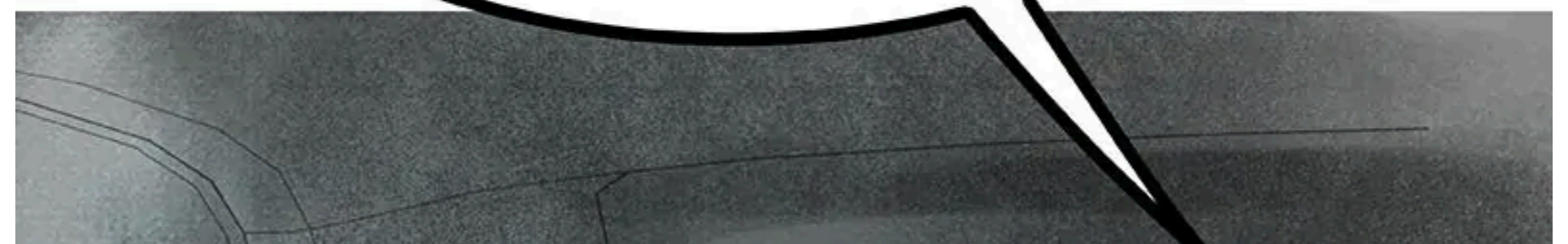









Why is the general public
here? This was meant to be a
closed forum.






Are you sure you don't
want me to go in your
place?



A close-up of a hand holding a lit match. The match is white with a yellow-orange flame. The hand is dark-skinned with red lines indicating veins or scratches. The background is dark and textured.

No, I've avoided him
long enough.

A solid dark grey rectangular block at the bottom of the page, with a speech bubble tail pointing down to it from the text above.



And if he genuinely
does have a cure for the
plague, isn't that a
good thing?





Yes, but I don't fancy
him as King of the Gods.

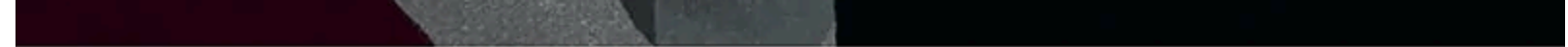


Your Majesty,
we've arrived.



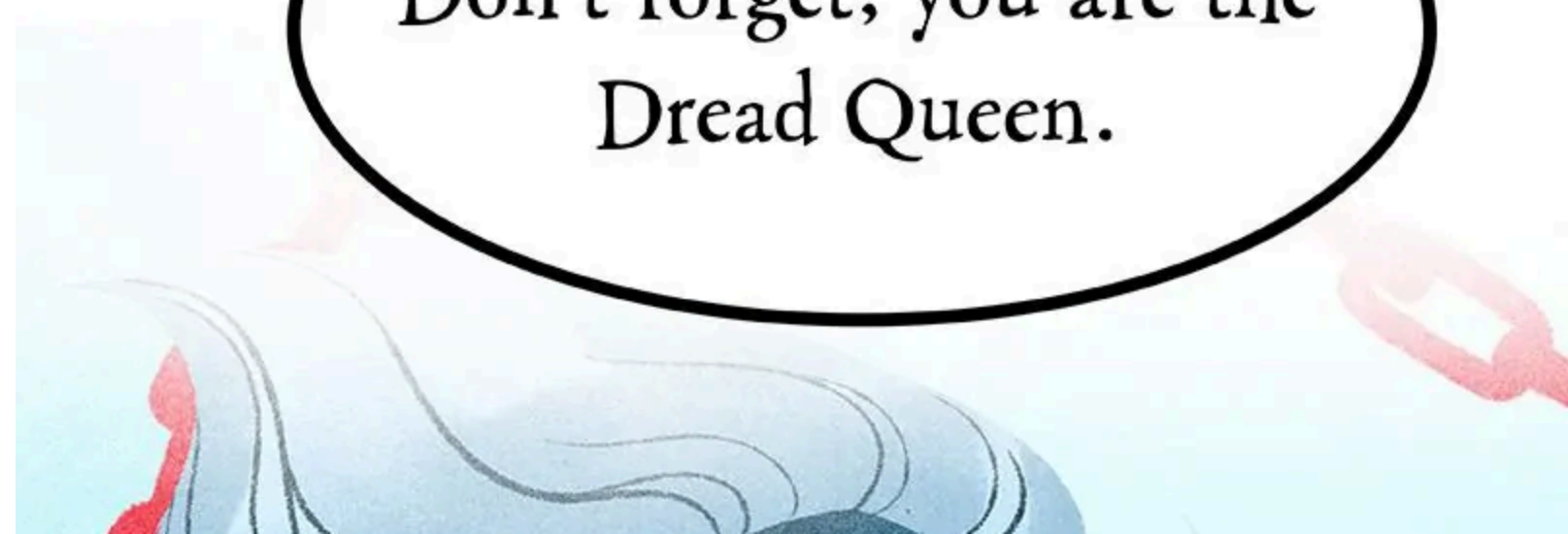
One disaster at a time,
my friend.

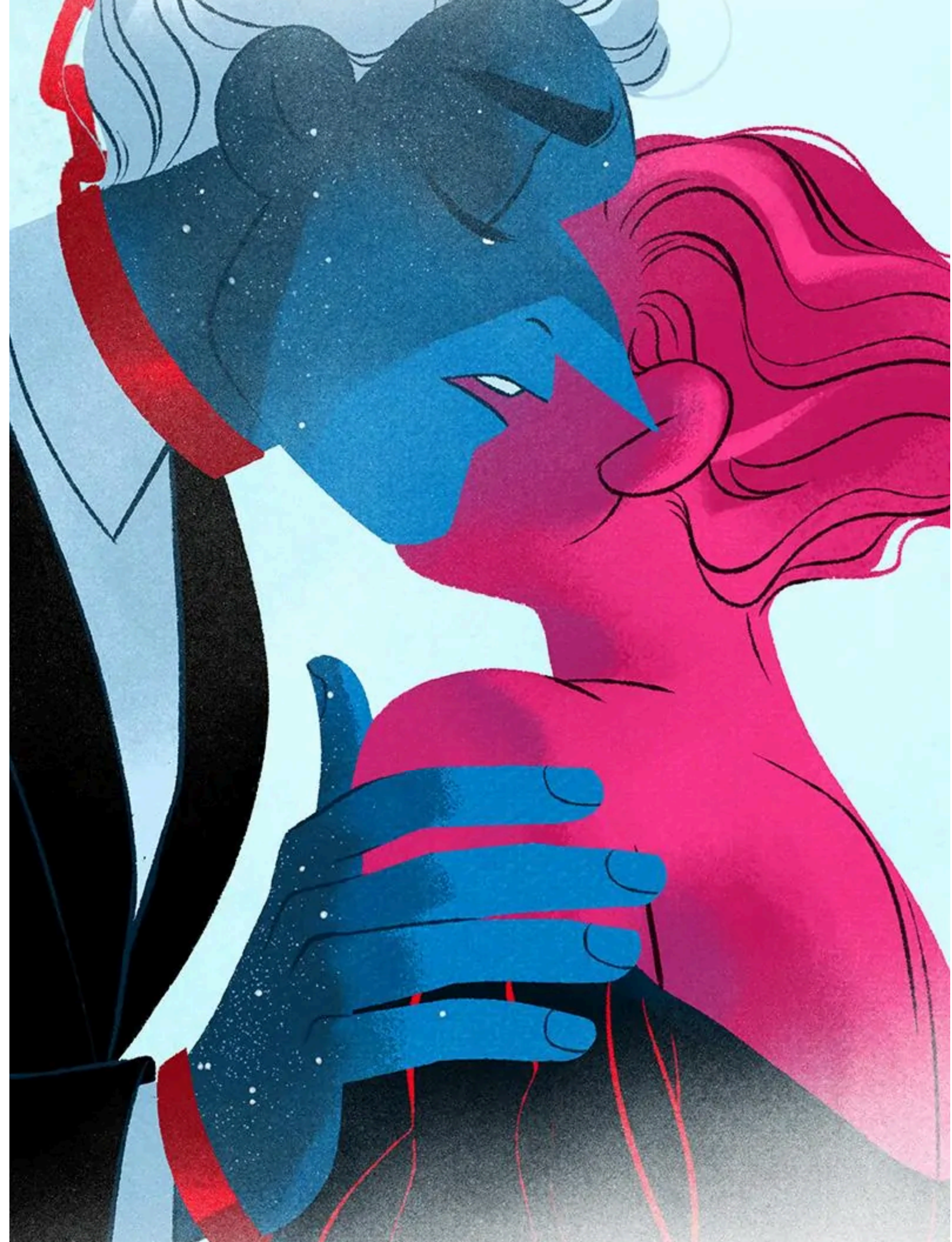




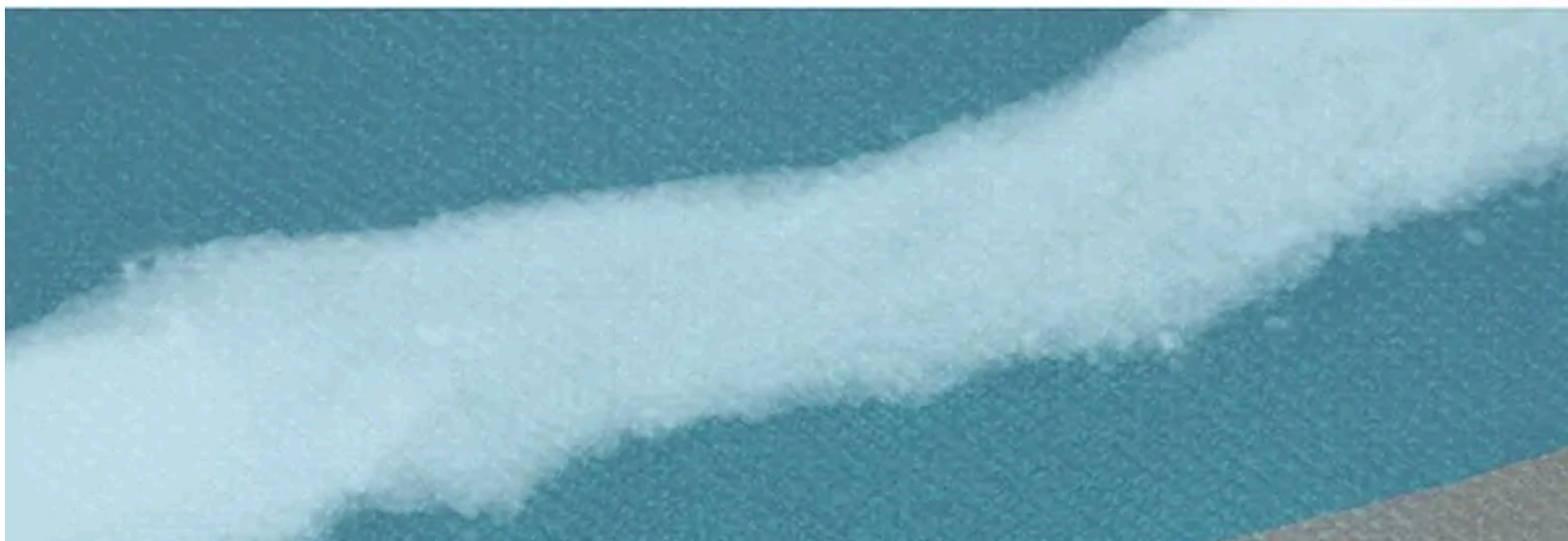
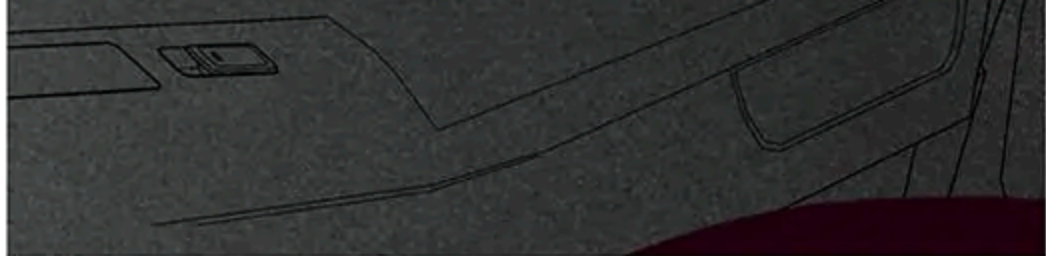


Don't forget, you are the
Dread Queen.













Has he told you
anything about his
so-called solution?



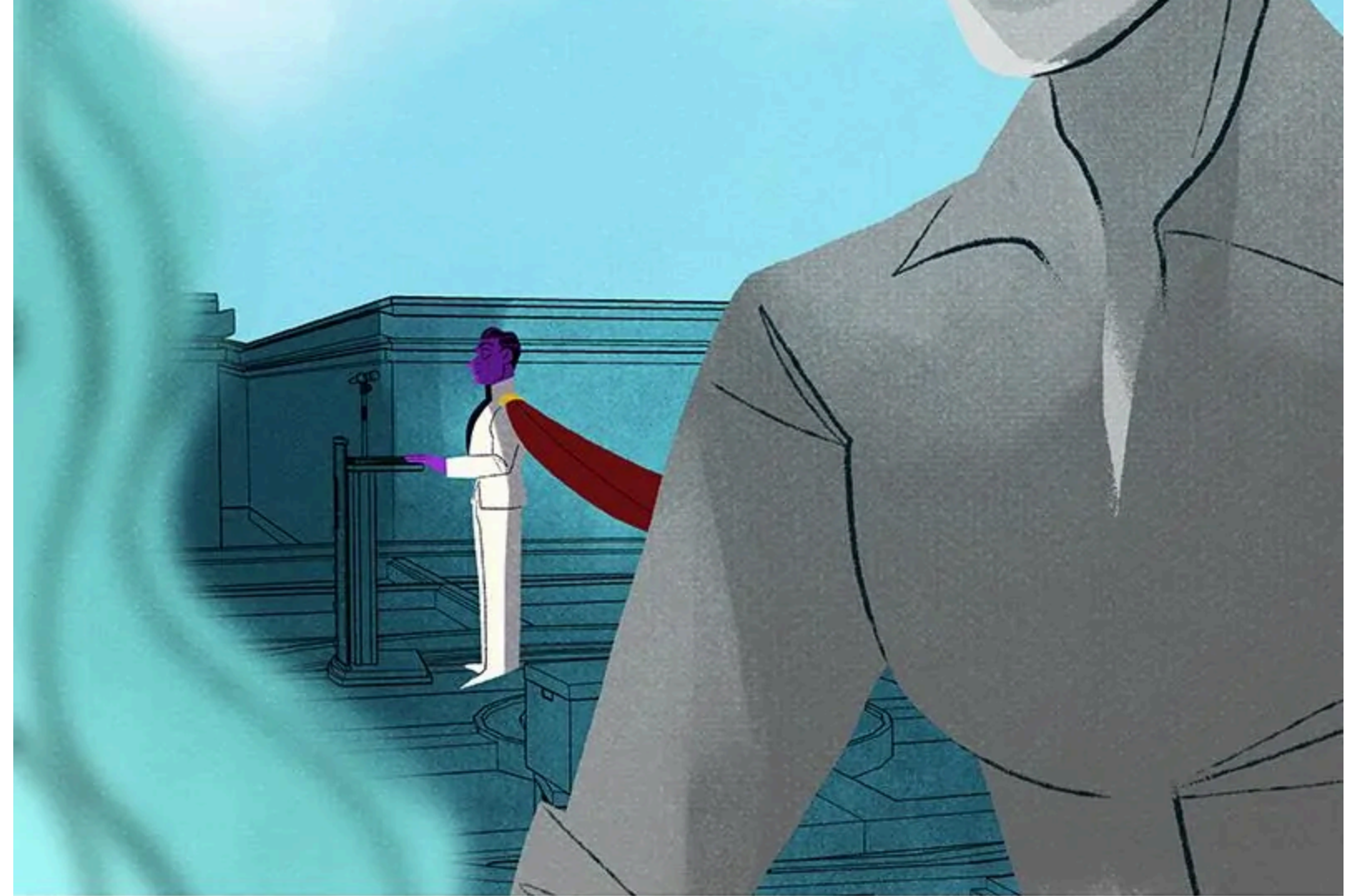


Nope.
Nothing.



I understand the meeting being called, but why the broadcast?





Welcome, everyone.
Thank you for coming
on such short notice.





Let's see, who are we
waiting on?





Hera?

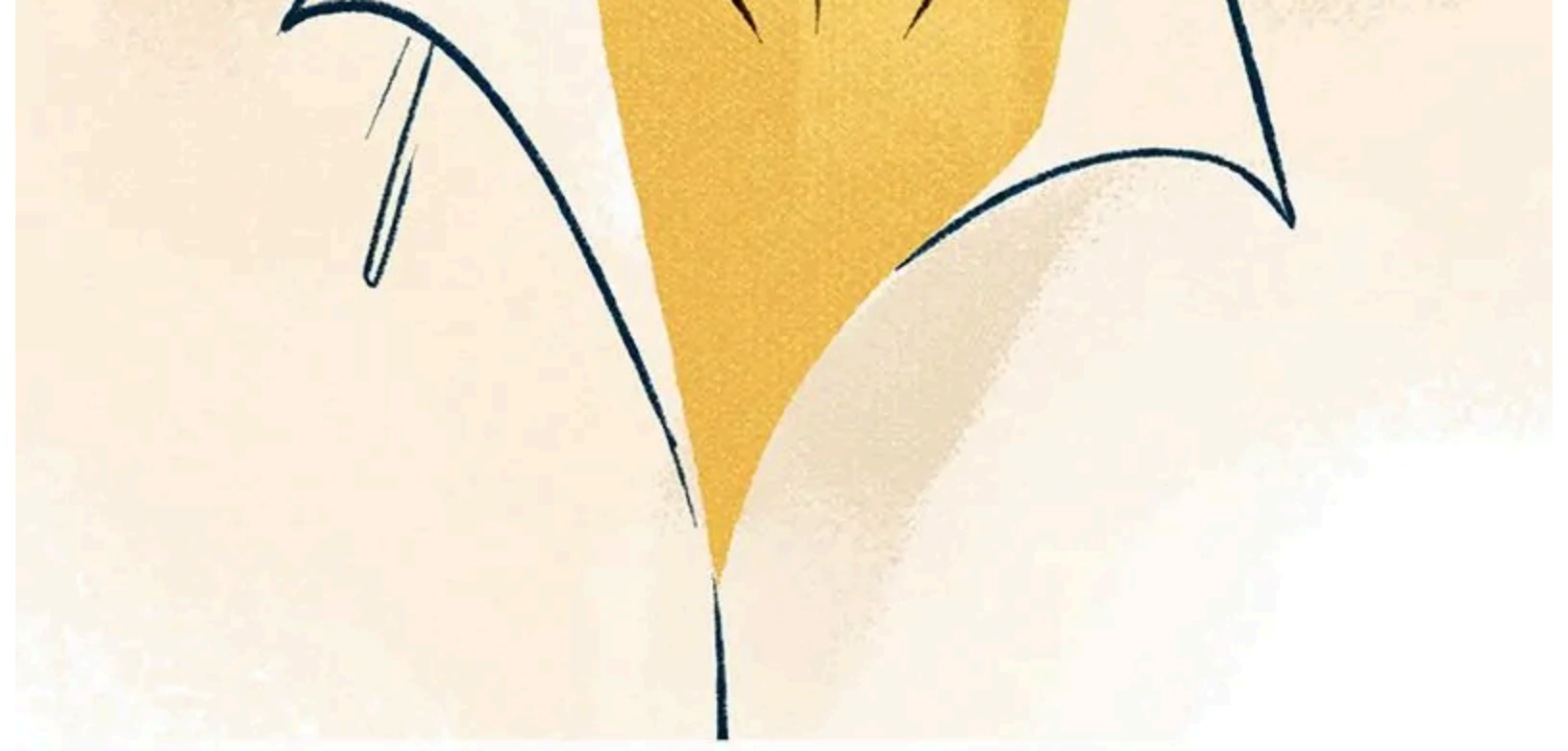




When I told her about the

meeting, she said she hated
you with the power of 100
suns.





I'll put her down as a

I'll put her down as a
maybe.







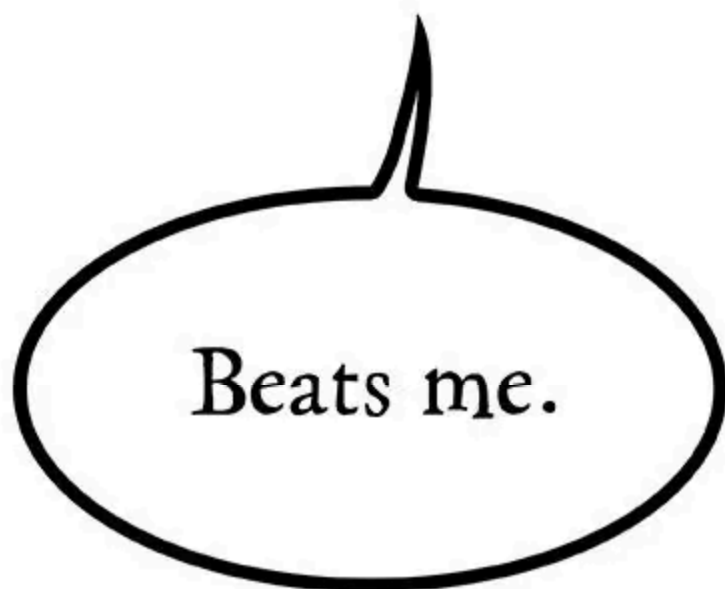
Persephone, the lady of

...telephone, the lady of
the hour.



Why am I
the lady of
the hour?

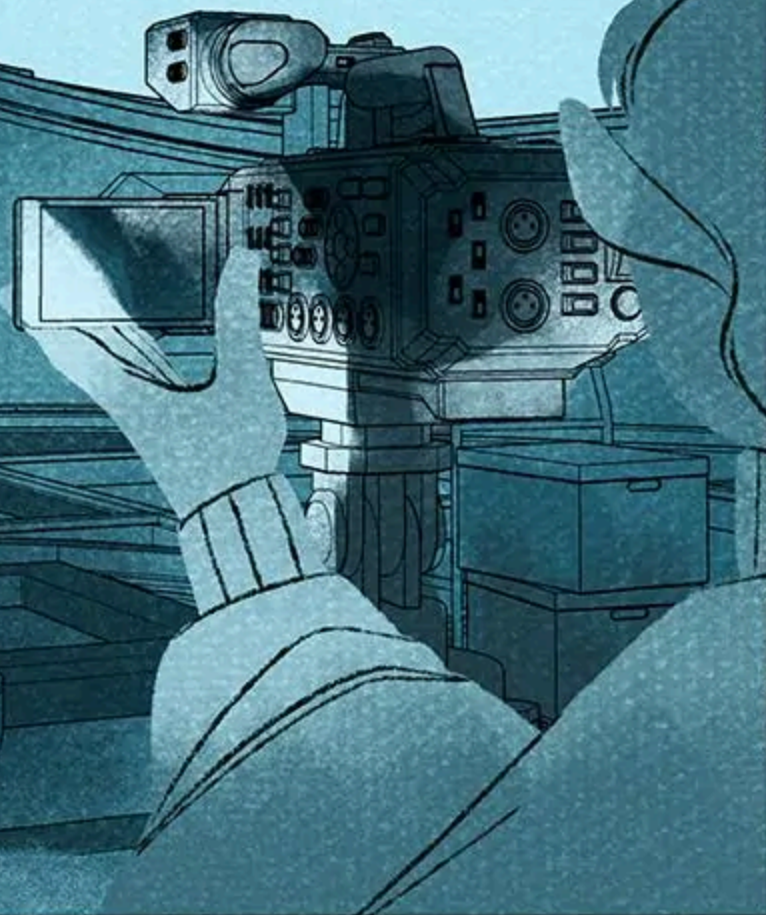


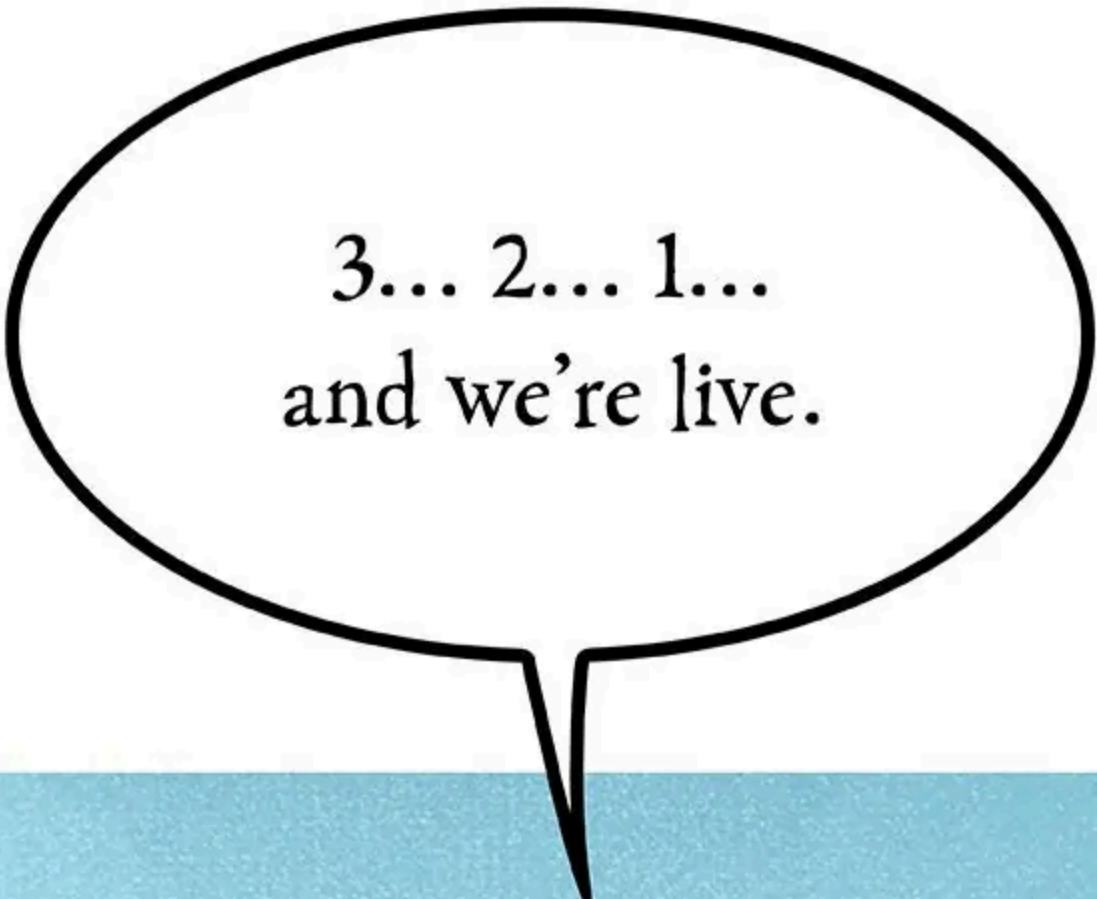


He always makes
things weirder than
they need to be.

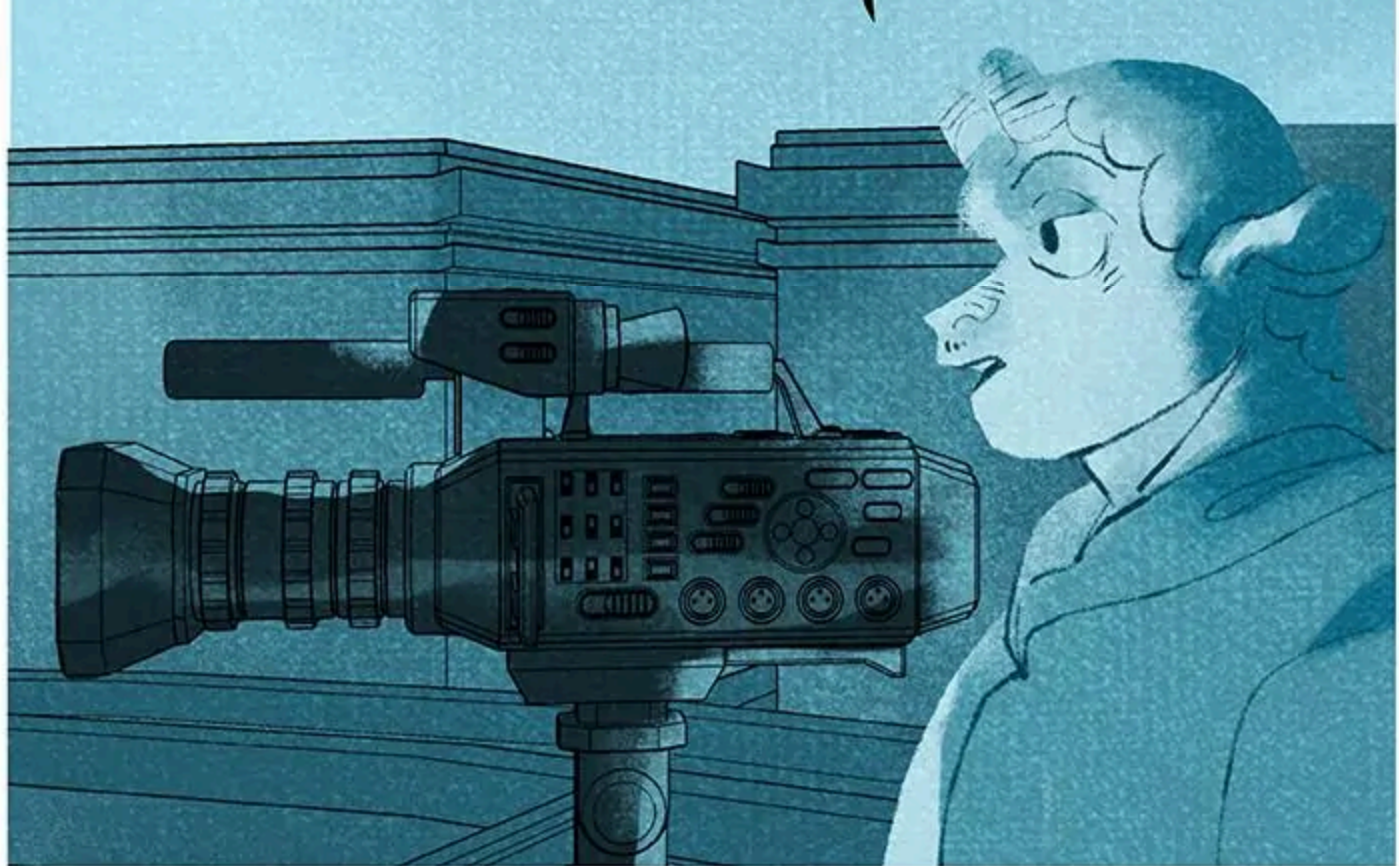


Alright, everyone!
Let's get underway.





3... 2... 1...
and we're live.



Greetings, citizens

of Olympus. I, along
with the leadership
team, have invited
you to view

the progress we've
made regarding the
plague in the Mortal
Realm.



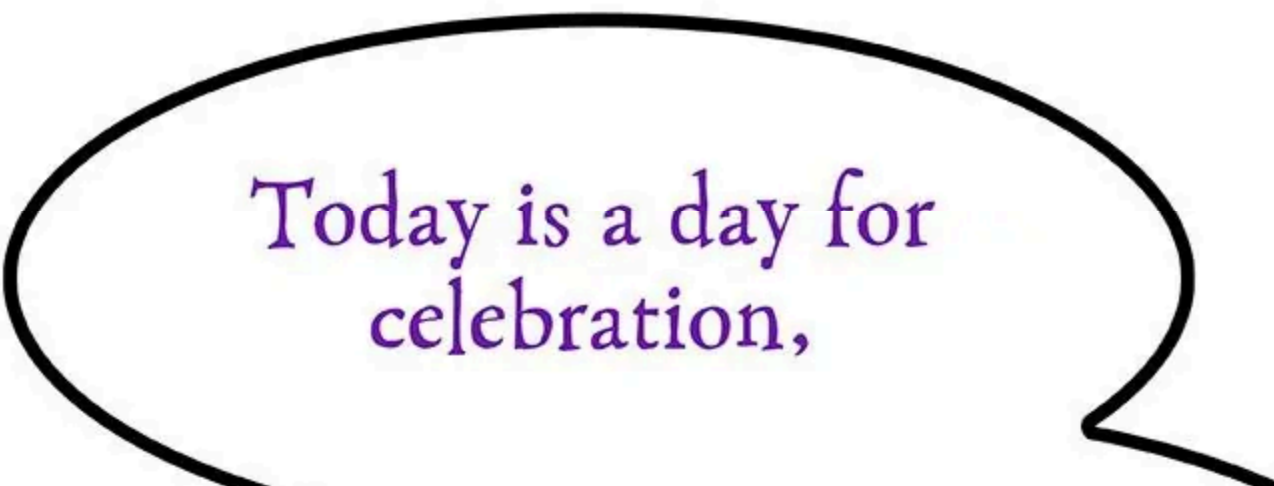



Normally, such a
meeting would be
behind closed doors,

but I believe

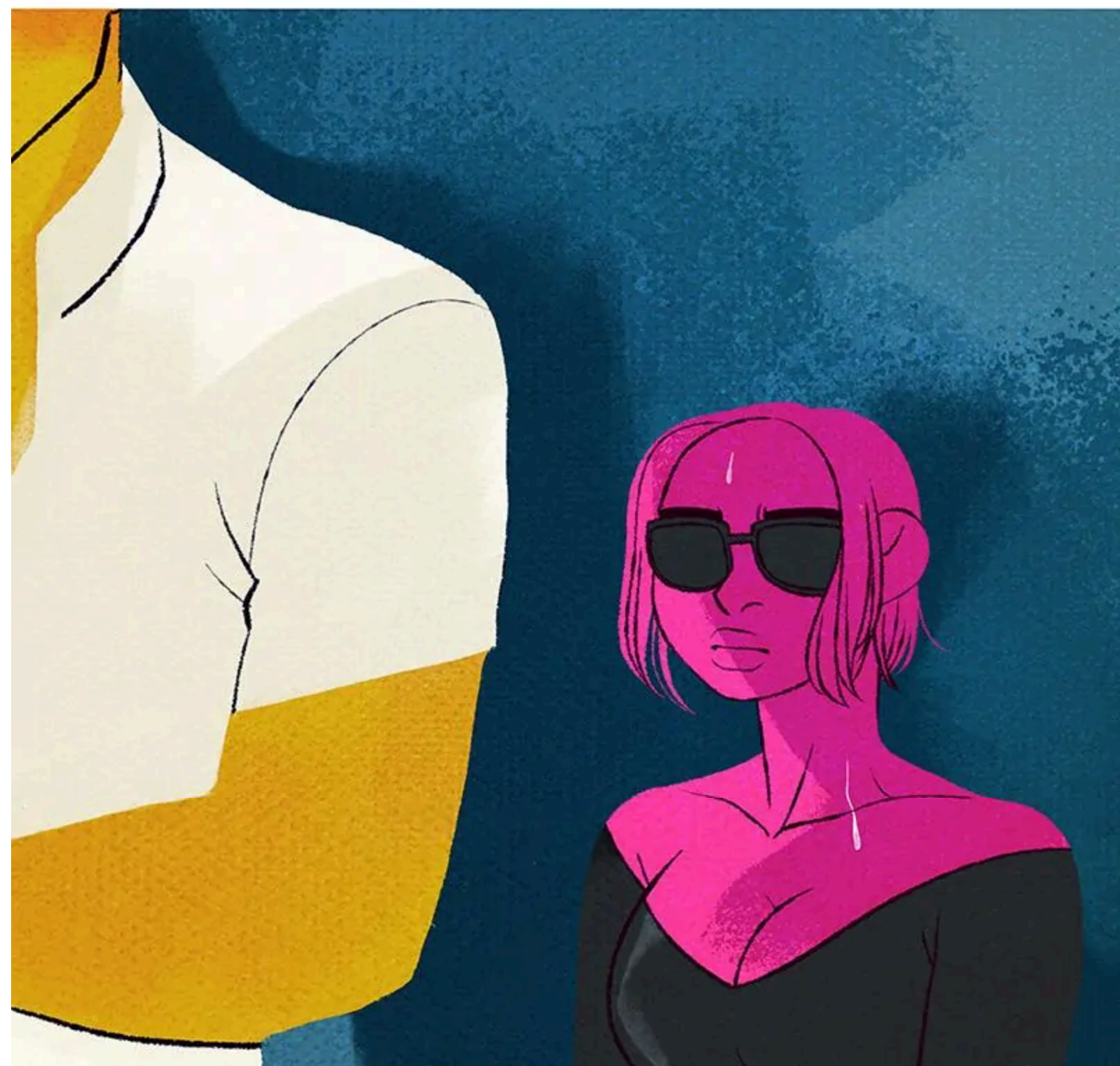
transparency is key.






Today is a day for
celebration,

as I have devised a solution
that I'm very excited to
show you all.





Persephone, could you
come up here, please?



Come on, don't
be shy.



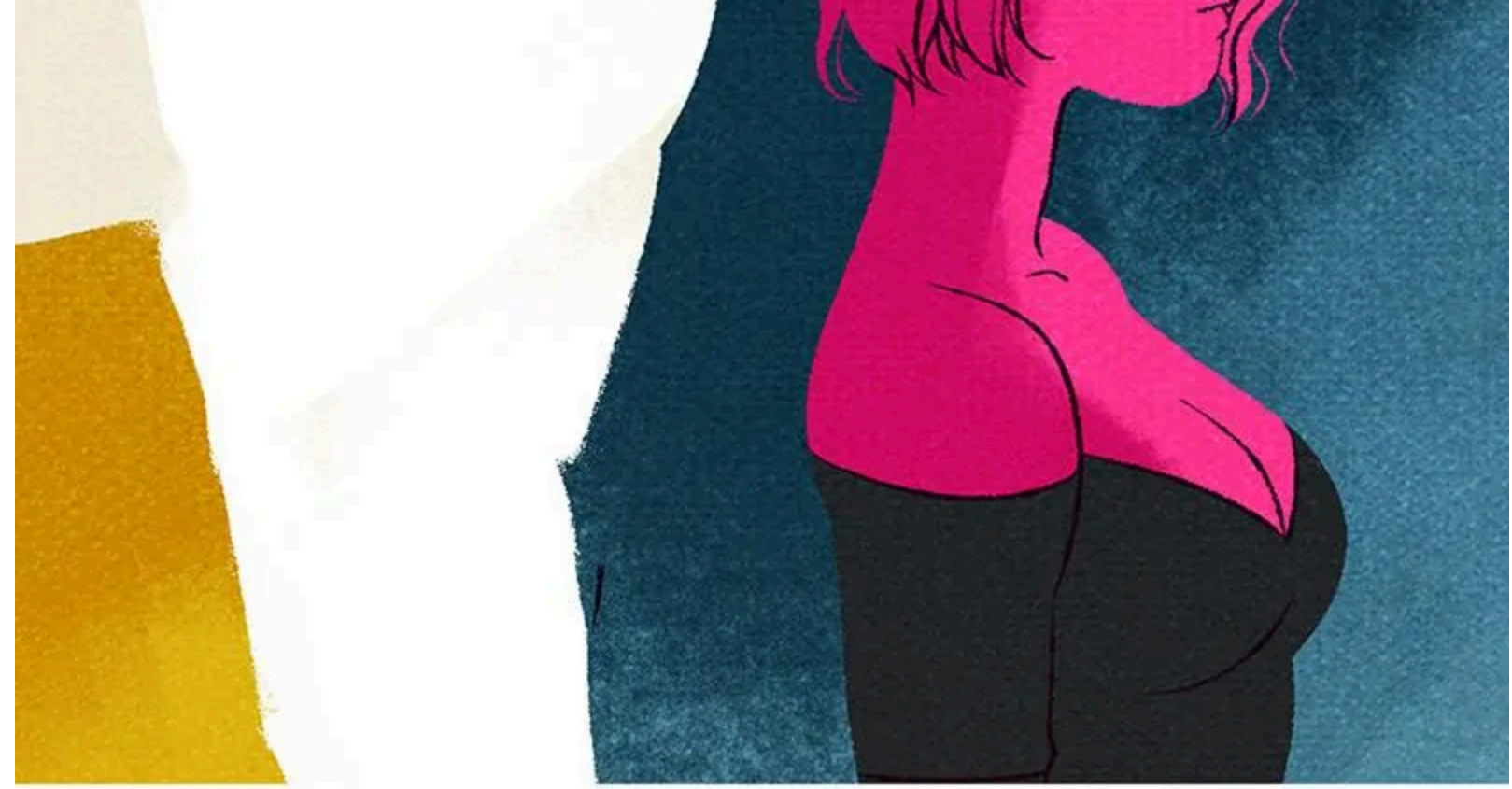


I see why he is broadcasting
this. If I don't go up there,
I'll look like an asshole.



If you want to leave, just
say the word.







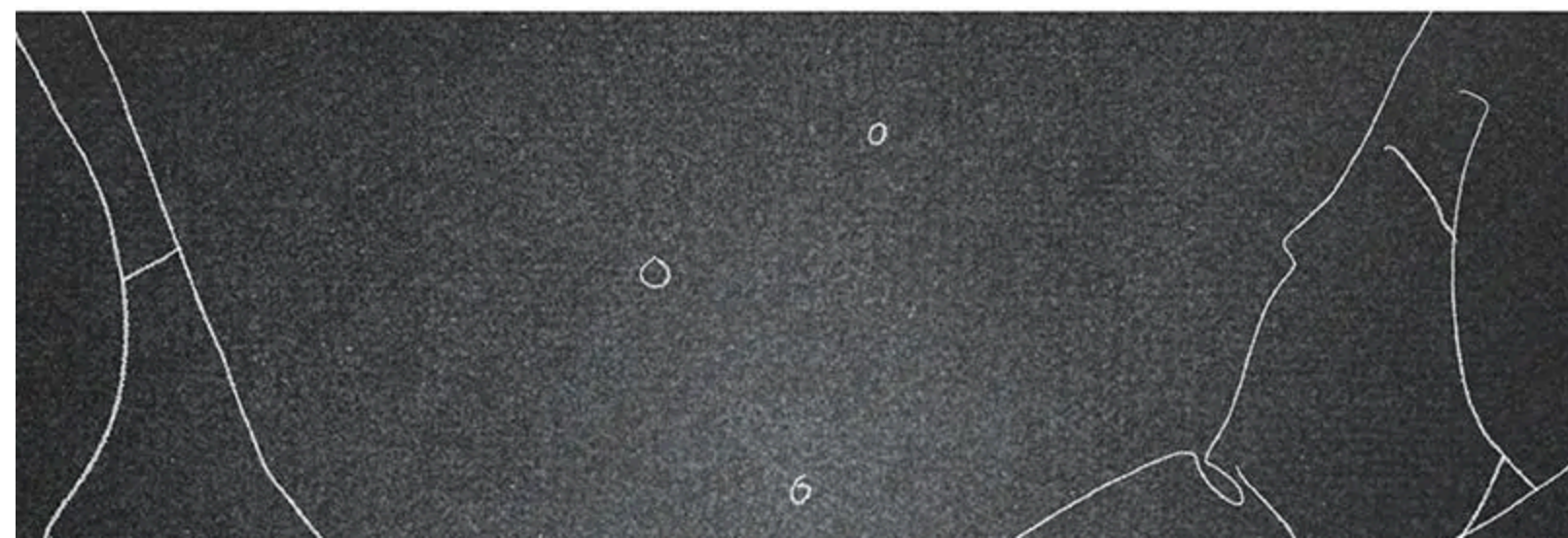
I'm afraid.





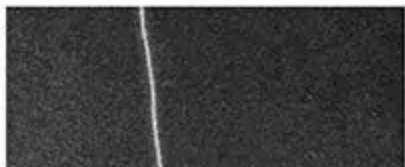


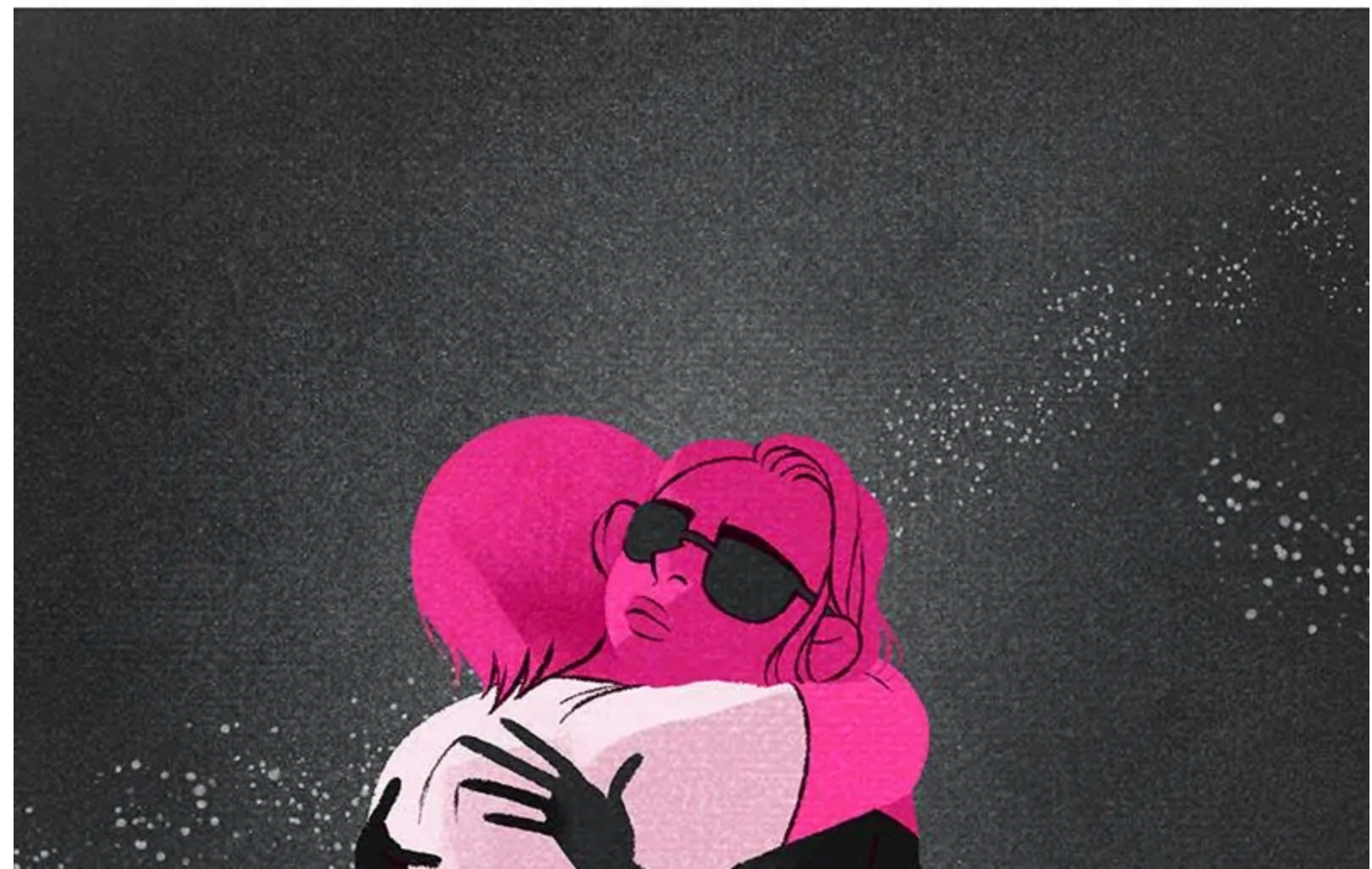
I will always protect
you.





I promise.

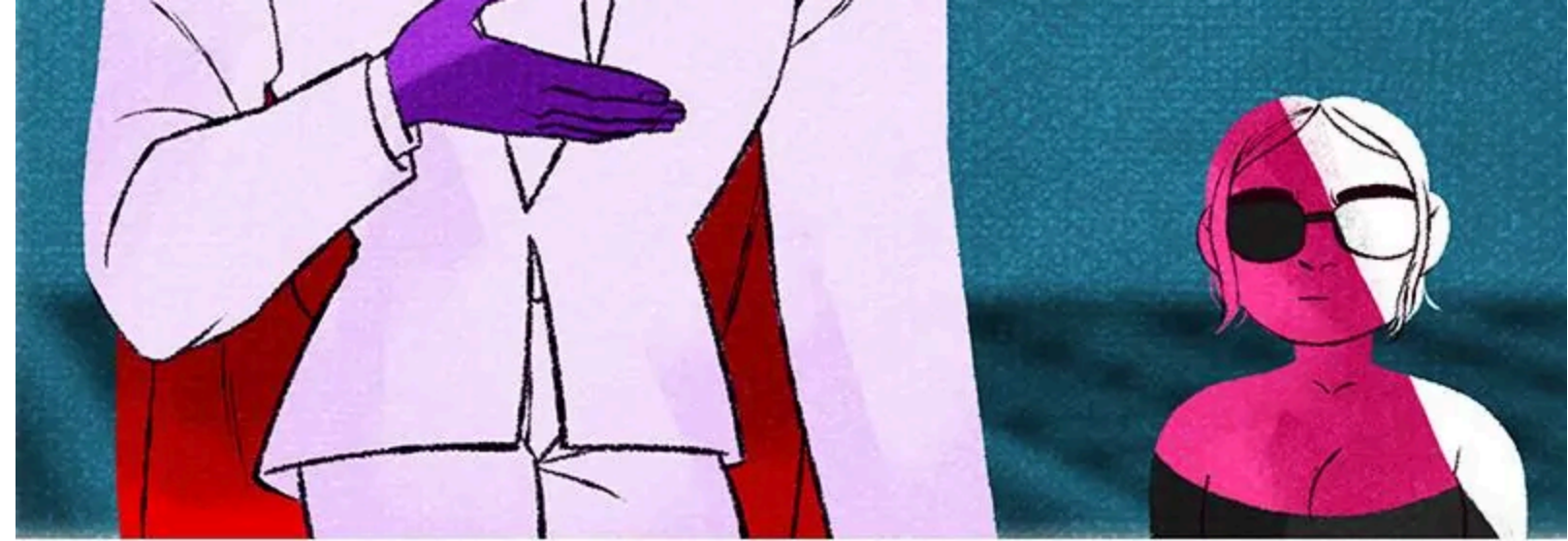






She's finally here.





Now, I think it's
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

better that I show
rather than tell.

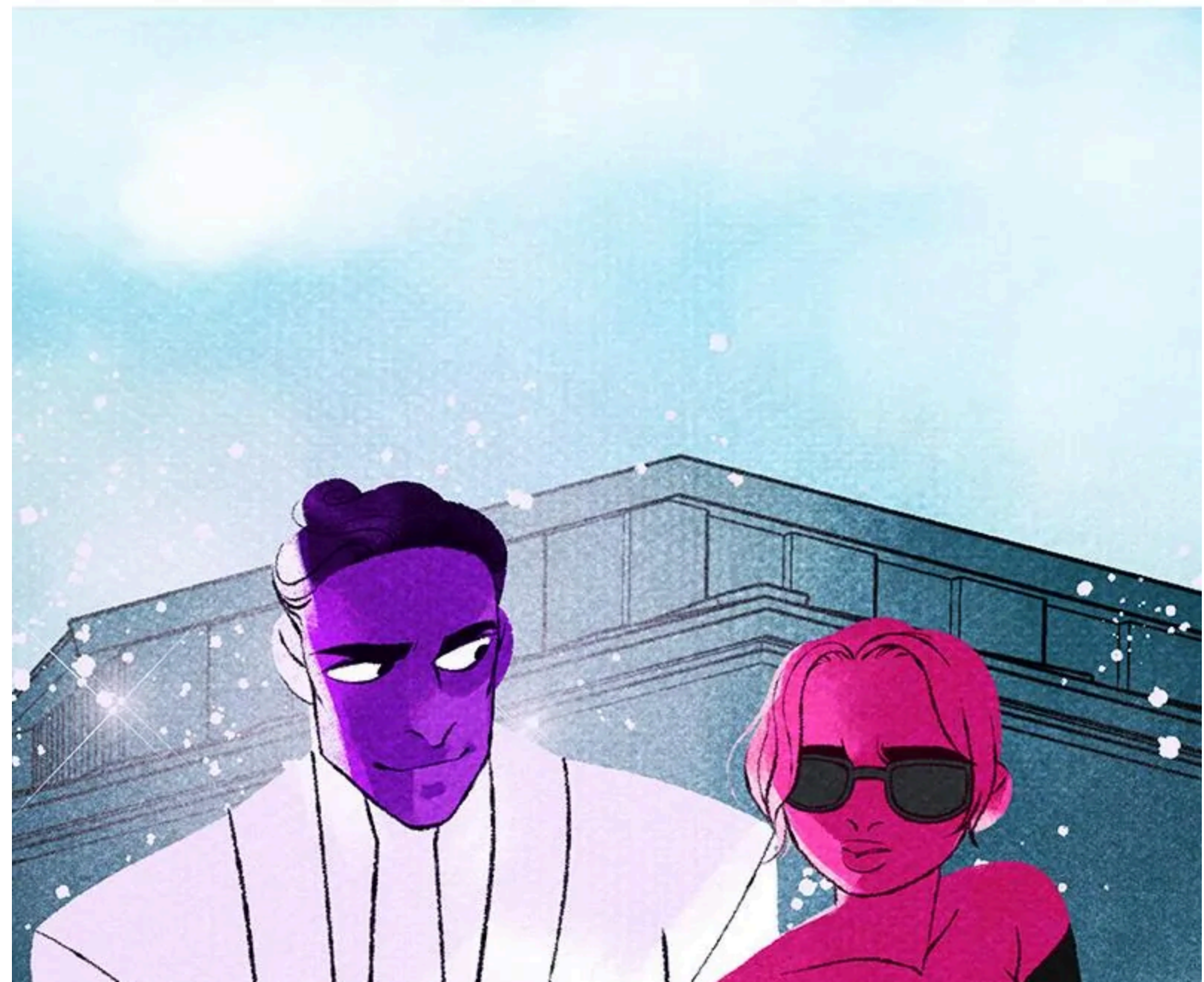


Do I have your
consent to touch
your arm?





I suppose.

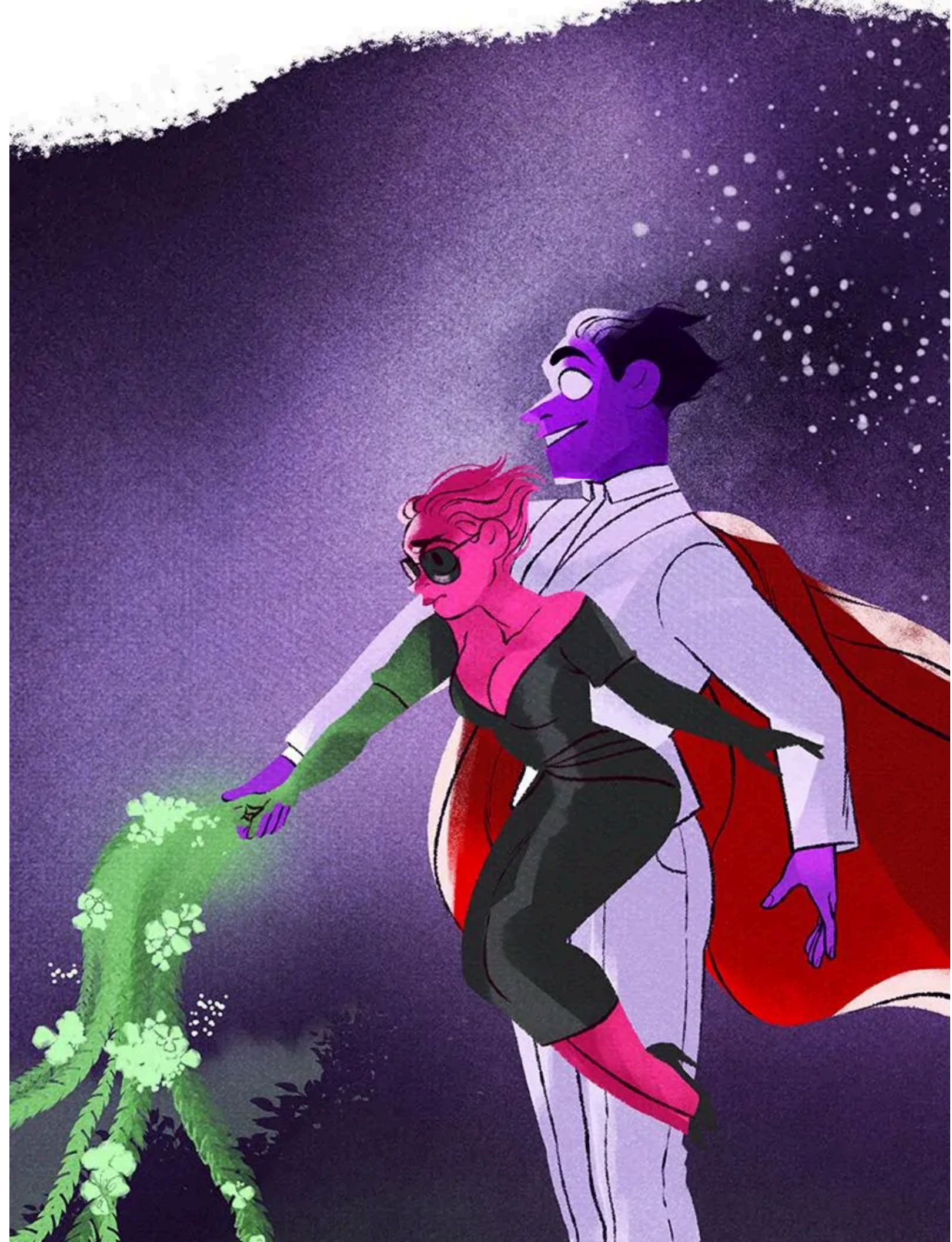




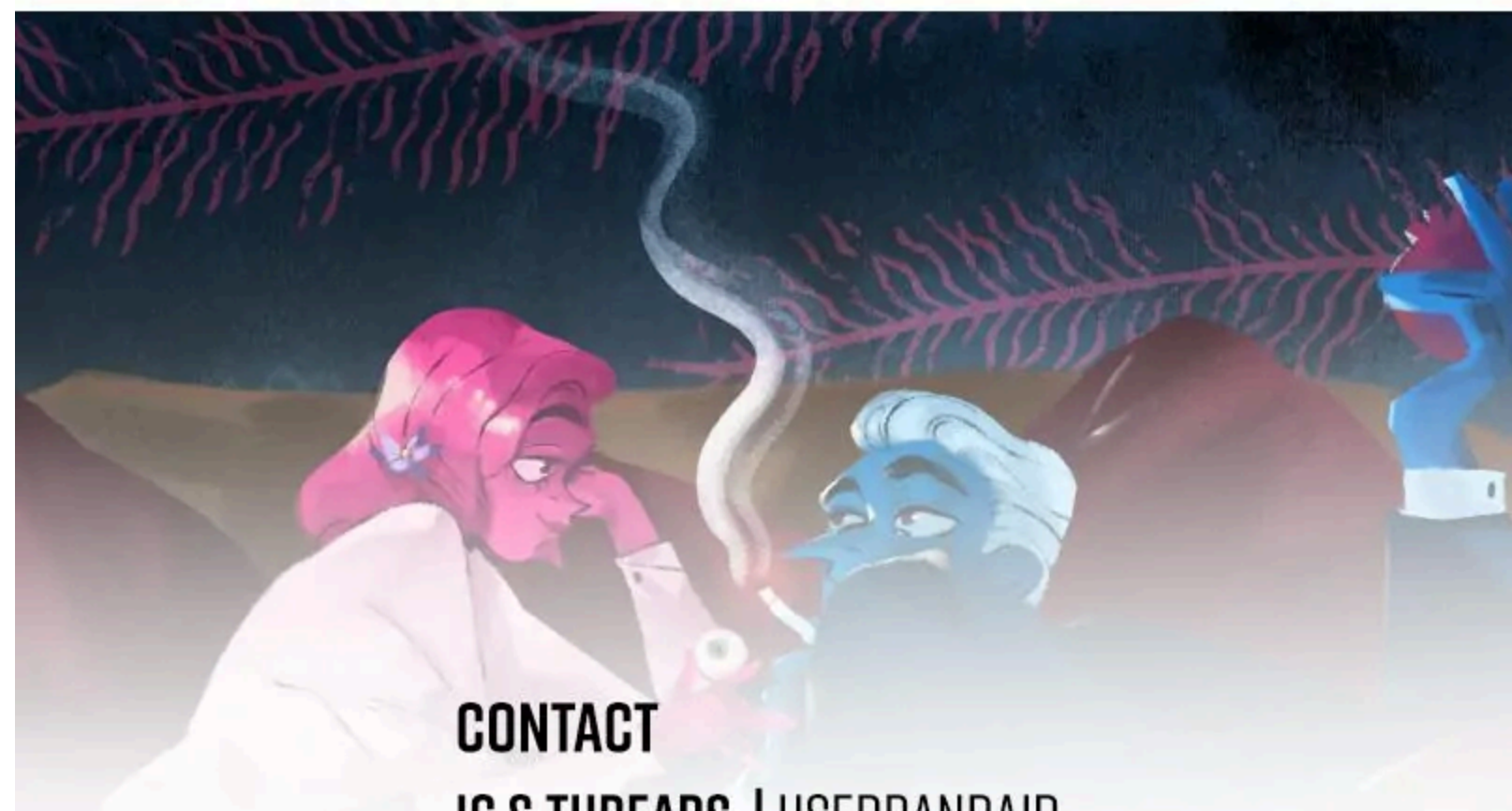












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